



**OBAMA, CAMERON  
MEET TO DISCUSS  
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**Aruba TODAY**

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Saturday, January 17, 2015



**Courting History**

**Supreme Court Takes On Gay Marriage**

Gay rights advocate Vin Testa waves a rainbow flag in front of the Supreme Court in Washington. The U.S. Supreme Court said Friday, January 16, 2015, it will decide whether same-sex couples nationwide have a right to marry under the Constitution, setting the stage for a potentially historic ruling.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

**MARK SHERMAN**  
**Associated Press**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. Supreme Court says it will decide whether same-sex couples nationwide have a right to marry under the Constitution, setting the stage for a potentially historic ruling. The justices will take up gay-rights cases that ask them to overturn bans in four states and declare for

the entire nation that people can marry the partners of their choice, regardless of gender. The cases will be argued in April, and a decision is expected by late June. Proponents of same-sex marriage said they expect the court to settle the matter once and for all with a decision that invalidates state provisions that define marriage as between a man and a woman.

Attorney General Eric Holder said the Obama administration would urge the court “to make marriage equality a reality for all Americans.” Advocates for traditional marriage want the court to let the political process play out, rather than have judges order states to allow same-sex couples to marry. “The people of every state should remain free to af-

firm marriage as the union of a man and a woman in their laws,” said Austin R. Nimocks, senior counsel for the anti-gay marriage group Alliance Defending Freedom. Momentum has shifted dramatically in the United States in recent months in favor of gay marriage. Same-sex couples now can marry in 36 states and the District of Columbia.

That number is nearly double what it was just three months ago, when the justices initially declined to hear appeals from five states seeking to preserve their bans on same-sex marriage. The effect of the court's action in October was to make final several pro-gay rights rulings in the lower courts.

**Continued on page 4**



# Europe anti-terror raids net dozens amid high anxiety



Police talk to a man at the entrance of a government building in Brussels, Friday, Jan. 16, 2015. Thirteen people were detained in Belgium and two arrested in France in an anti-terror sweep following a firefight in which two suspected terrorists were killed in the eastern city of Verviers on Thursday.

(AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert)

**R. CASERT  
A. CHARLTON  
Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Belgium ordered its army into the streets and anti-terror raids across Western Europe netted dozens of suspects

Friday as Europe rushed to thwart more attacks by people with links to Mideast Islamic extremists.

As anxiety soared in the wake of last week's bloody spree in and around Paris, the broad scope of the po-

lice actions illustrated the challenges facing a continent threatened by Islamic militancy far from the battlefields of Syria, Iraq and Yemen.

Rob Wainwright, head of the police agency Europol,

told The Associated Press that foiling such attacks by returning jihadists had become "extremely difficult" because Europe's estimated 2,500 to 5,000 radicalized Muslim extremists have little command structure and are increasingly sophisticated.

French, German, Belgian and Irish police had at least 30 suspects behind bars on Friday and in Brussels, authorities said a dozen searches led to the seizure of four Kalashnikov assault rifles, hand guns and explosives. Several police uniforms were also found, which Belgian authorities said suggested the plotters had intended to masquerade as police officers.

The seizures followed a vast anti-terrorism sweep on Thursday in and around Brussels and the eastern industrial city of Verviers in which two suspects were killed in a firefight and a third wounded as police closed in on their hideout. Authorities said the overnight operation netted several returnees from Islamic holy war in Syria.

Federal magistrate Eric Van

der Sypt said Friday the suspects were within hours of implementing a plan to kill police. He said authorities were reasonably confident they had dismantled the core of a dangerous terrorist cell but more suspects could be at large.

"I cannot confirm that we arrested everyone in this group," he told reporters. Authorities have said there was no apparent link between the foiled plots in Belgium and last week's terror attacks in Paris on a satirical newspaper and a kosher supermarket.

However, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said Friday that while there was no apparent operational connection between the two terror groups, "the link that exists is the will to attack our values."

Visiting the tense French capital, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met President Francois Hollande and toured the sites of last week's attacks on the Charlie Hebdo weekly and a kosher supermarket. Twenty people, including the three gunmen, were killed. □

## Malawi floods kill at least 176, displace near 200,000 people

**RAPHAEL TENTHANI  
LYNSEY CHUTEL  
Associated Press**

**BLANTYRE, Malawi (AP)** — Flooding in Malawi has killed more than 176 people, displaced at least 200,000 others, left homes and schools submerged in water and roads washed away by the deluge in the southern African country, the vice president said Friday. Downriver in neighboring Mozambique, floodwaters have left at least 38 dead, according to Mozambican news agency AIM, displaced tens of thousands and damaged the main road linking the north and south of the country.

While the Mozambican government's flood plan, announced last year, may have lessened the damage, Malawi was caught off guard.

Dozens of people are miss-

ing in Malawi, with at least 153 unaccounted for in the worst affected southern parts of the country, Vice President Saulos Chilima said.

"It's a very bad situation," he said, speaking at a press conference in Malawi's commercial capital Blantyre. A joint operation between the police and the army was underway to rescue hundreds who were trapped in their villages by flood waters caused by weeks of heavy rain, Chilima said. A bright spot of their work so far: Rescue workers had found a woman who had given birth while trapped by floodwaters. The mother and newborn were healthy, Chilima said.

"I flew over some parts of the Lower Shire but we could not find anywhere to land," he said of the south. □

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# Obama, Cameron discuss security on heels of attacks



President Barack Obama listens as British Prime Minister David Cameron speaks during their joint news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Friday, Jan. 16, 2015. In a show of trans-Atlantic unity, President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron pledged a joint effort on Friday to fight domestic terrorism following deadly attacks in France. They also strongly urged the U.S. Congress to hold off on implementing new sanctions on Iran in the midst of nuclear talks.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

**JULIE PACE**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** —

President Barack Obama argued Friday that a resurgent fear of terrorism across Europe and the United States should not lead countries to overreact and shed privacy protections, even as British Prime Minister David Cameron pressed for more government access to encrypted communications used by U.S. companies.

Obama and Cameron met at the White House just over a week after terror attacks in France left 17 people dead and stirred anxieties on both sides of the Atlantic. In the wake of the attacks, Cameron has redoubled efforts to get more access to online information, while the French government plans to present new anti-terrorism measures next week that would allow for more phone-tapping and other surveillance.

"As technology develops, as the world moves on, we should try to avoid the safe havens that could otherwise be created for terrorists to talk to each other," Cameron said in a joint news conference with Obama.

The response to the Paris attacks could reinvigorate the debate over balanc-

ing privacy and security, even as governments and companies still grapple with the backlash against surveillance that followed the 2013 disclosures from former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden. With some in France calling the attacks their country's Sept. 11, there are also fears that the government could respond with laws akin to the sweeping USA Patriot Act that the American Congress quickly approved after the 2001 attacks.

Obama avoided taking a public position on Cameron's call for U.S.-based technology companies like Google, Facebook and Apple to give governments more access to encrypted communications. He urged caution, saying he did not believe the threat level was so great that the "pendulum needs to swing" toward more invasive security measures.

Still, Obama agreed with his British counterpart that governments need to keep pace with rapidly evolving technology. He said that if having a phone number or email address of a potential terrorist isn't enough to disrupt a plot, "that's a problem."

Last fall, FBI Director James Comey complained that new, locked-down oper-

ating systems for smartphones made by Apple and Google could hinder law enforcement's ability to investigate and prosecute crime, pointing to cases in which police would have had their hands tied had the phones been encrypted. Leading American Internet companies expanded their encryption programs in an effort to protect customers' communications in the wake of Snowden's revelations. The disclosures, contained in top-secret government documents leaked to news organizations, showed the NSA and its British counterpart, GCHQ, were collecting digital communications records from millions of citizens not suspected of a crime. The prospect of authorized eavesdropping

on encrypted communications raised alarms from civil liberties groups, as well as practical concerns that weakening encryption could also put users at risk of hacking.

"There's no way to design a service so that it's secure from North Korea and China while also allowing the British and U.S. governments to gain access," said Christopher Soghoian, principal technologist for the American Civil Liberties Union. "It's either secure or it's insecure."

The head of the Internet Association, a group that counts Facebook, Google, Yahoo, Amazon, eBay and Netflix among its members, said any government access to consumers' data must be "rule-bound, transparent and tailored." □

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# US Supreme Court taking on gay marriage

Continued from page 4

Now the court will be weighing in on major gay rights issues for the fourth time in 27 years as societal norms have been re-defined in the space of a generation.

In the first of those, in 1986, the court upheld Georgia's anti-sodomy law in a devastating defeat for gay rights advocates. But the three subsequent rulings, all written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, were major victories for gay men and lesbians.

In its most recent case in 2013, the court struck down part of a federal anti-gay marriage law in a decision that paved the way for a wave of lower court rulings across the country in favor of same-sex marriage rights.

For this latest case, the court is extending the time

it usually allots for argument from an hour to two-and-a-half hours. The justices will consider two related questions. The first is whether the Constitution requires states to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. The other is whether states must recognize same-sex marriages performed elsewhere. The appeals before the court come from gay and lesbian plaintiffs in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee. The federal appeals court that oversees four states upheld their same-sex marriage bans in November, reversing pro-gay rights rulings of federal judges in all four states. It was the first, and so far only, appellate court to rule against same-sex marriage since the high court's 2013 decision.

One of the plaintiffs from Ohio, James Obergefell, said he was crying "tears of joy and sadness" after the court accepted his



**Pete Prete with Equality Beyond Gender waves a flag in support of gay marriage in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, Jan. 16, 2015. The court on Friday agreed to decide whether all 50 states must allow gay and lesbian couples to marry. The court's announcement made it likely that it would resolve one of the great civil rights questions of the age before its current term ends in June.**

(Jabin Botsford/The New York Times)

appeal. In 2013, Obergefell flew to Maryland with his dying partner, John Arthur, so they could marry before Arthur's death. The couple sued to force Ohio to list Arthur as married on his death certificate, which would allow the men to be

buried next to each other. Obergefell died 15 months ago.

"I can't wait to walk up those steps and have the Supreme Court understand that we're just like everyone else," Obergefell said. Other plaintiffs are Gregory

Bourke and Michael DeLeon, who have been together for 32 years, were married in Canada in 2004 and live in Kentucky. "Our family is like any other family. We have children, we have jobs, we have lives, we are very much engaged in our community and yet we don't feel like we are being treated yet as equal citizens," Bourke said.

Ten other states also prohibit same-sex unions. In Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, South Dakota and Texas, judges have struck down anti-gay marriage laws, but they remain in effect pending appeals. In Missouri, same-sex couples can marry in St. Louis and Kansas City only.

Louisiana is the only other state that has seen its gay marriage ban upheld by a federal judge. There have been no rulings on lawsuits in Alabama, Georgia, Nebraska and North Dakota. □



## DEA admits phone records program that ended in 2013

ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Drug Enforcement Administration has formally acknowledged that it maintained a sweeping database of phone calls made from the United States to multiple foreign countries. The program has since been discontinued, the Justice Department said Friday.

The revelation was made in a court filing in the case

of a man accused of conspiring to export goods and technology illegally to Iran. The program is separate from a National Security Agency phone records program exposed in 2013 by former NSA systems analyst Edward Snowden. Though the DEA database appears to be more limited in scope, observers have said its existence shows the extent to which electronic government surveillance has not been limited to

counterterrorism investigations.

A DEA official wrote in a three-page document filed Thursday that the program relied on administrative subpoenas to collect records of calls originating in the U.S. to foreign countries, including Iran, that were "determined to have a demonstrated nexus to international drug trafficking and related criminal activities."

The statement says the

records kept track of the date, time and duration of the phone call between the initiating telephone number and the receiving telephone number.

The database could then be used to query a specific telephone number if law enforcement officials "had a reasonable articulable suspicion that the telephone number was related to an ongoing federal criminal investigation," according to a declaration

by Robert Patterson, a DEA assistant special agent in charge.

The statement said the database did not include communications content or personal identifying information.

Patrick Rodenbush, a Justice Department spokesman,

said the program was discontinued in September 2013 and that all information held in the database has been deleted. □

## Homeland Security chief: Visa waivers fears to be addressed

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson acknowledged concerns Friday that terrorists might use the visa waiver program to enter the United States, and said his department is taking steps to address weaknesses in the program. Johnson told an aviation industry luncheon that he doesn't want to discard the program, which makes it easier for Americans to travel to friendly countries and for citizens of those countries to travel to the U.S. "It represents an important element of lawful commerce between and among our international partners," he said.

But he noted that some of those countries also have citizens or legal residents who have left to fight or



Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson speaks in Arlington, Va. Johnson said Friday he's concerned that terrorists might use the visa waiver program to get into the United States through countries with which the U.S. has friendly relations, and his department is taking steps to address weaknesses in the program.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

train with terrorist groups in the Middle East, Asia or Africa, then returned home intent on violence.

For example, some citizens or residents of France and Germany have traveled to the Middle East to fight

or train with al-Qaida or Islamic State militants. The concern is that those fighters will return to their home

countries and from there travel to the U.S.

In November, the department added new information fields to the electronic system for travel authorization, Johnson said. He said he has also asked his staff to tighten the security assurances the U.S. has with countries that participate in the waiver program.

"To deal with the foreign fighter potential, the foreign fighter threat presented now globally, we need to develop more robust information sharing with our key counterterrorism allies overseas to share information about individuals of suspicion," Johnson said. "There is much work to be done." Foreign fighters already known to the U.S. are less likely to enter the U.S. without a visa than those unknown to intelligence agencies. □

## US citizen settles lawsuit over 9/11 arrest with FBI

REBECCA BOONE

Associated Press

**BOISE, Idaho (AP)** — A U.S. citizen who said he was wrongly arrested when the government rounded up Muslim men after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks has settled his lawsuit against the FBI. The American Civil Liberties Union, which represented Abdullah al-Kidd in the lawsuit, announced the settlement Friday. Under the terms of the settlement, the federal government offered its regrets to the former University of Idaho student and agreed to

pay him \$385,000 to compensate him for damages incurred when he spent 16 days in detention facilities in 2003.

"I am pleased the government has finally acknowledged the trouble it put me through and has compensated me for that trouble," al-Kidd said in a prepared statement. "I hope no one else has to go through what I went through."

According to the ACLU, the letter expressing regret that the federal government sent al-Kidd as part of the settlement said: "The gov-

ernment acknowledges that your arrest and detention as a witness was a difficult experience for you and regrets any hardship or disruption to your life that may have resulted from your arrest and detention." In his lawsuit, al-Kidd contended that he was one of about 70 Muslim men rounded up under the material witness statute in the months after the 9/11 attacks. The law is intended to make sure that reluctant witnesses show up for trial, but al-Kidd said he fully cooperated with authori-

ties and was never told he might need to testify in the federal government's case against a fellow University of Idaho student.

Al-Kidd, who was born in Wichita, Kansas, was a football star at the University of Idaho. While attending the school, he converted to Islam and changed his name from Lavoni T. Kidd. He was still at the school in 2002 when FBI agents began investigating an acquaintance, graduate student Sami Omar al-Hussayen. The FBI suspected al-Hussayen of providing support

to terrorists by working on a computer website for a U.S. charity that was believed to be funneling money to terrorist groups. Al-Kidd cooperated with FBI agents as they investigated al-Hussayen, but he said he was never told to stay in the country and was never told that he may be needed to testify at al-Hussayen's trial. On March 16, 2003, al-Kidd was about to board a plane to study in Saudi Arabia when he was arrested at Dulles International Airport in the Washington, D.C. area. □

## China-savvy tea partyer takes helm of US House panel on Asia

**MATTHEW PENNINGTON**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The new leader of the House panel overseeing U.S. policy to the Asia-Pacific is a rarity in Congress: a deeply conservative Republican who shuns isolationism, favors closer ties with Asia and stands poised to praise as well as criticize China — and even do it in Mandarin.

Rep. Matt Salmon of Arizona is part of the tea party movement that advocates small government, a tough line on immigration and opposes President Barack Obama at every turn.

But Salmon also brings a unique perspective on Asia. He spent two years as a Mormon missionary in Taiwan, where he learned Chinese. He says he has visited mainland China more than 40 times, and during an earlier three-term stint in Congress that ended in 2000, he met with China's then-leader to help secure the release of a U.S. college researcher accused of stealing state secrets.

So while many tea party

members are wary of international engagement, Salmon embraces an active U.S. role in Asia, including in a regional free-trade agreement.

And in a Congress where China typically faces a blanket of stiff criticism from Republicans and Democrats alike, Salmon has a more balanced view.

"I want to be seen as someone who wants to work with China but I'm certainly not going to be an appeaser," Salmon told The Associated Press on his chairmanship of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on the Asia-Pacific.

The 56-year-old said he'd praise where it's due, but "I'm going to be blunt sometimes."

He showed a willingness to do that at a hearing last February that examined China's aggressive pursuit of territorial claims in the disputed seas of East Asia. He told lawmakers that Beijing was playing a game of dare and seeing "if the U.S. has the guts" to challenge it.

Salmon has a background



**House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio administers a ceremonial re-enactment of the House oath-of-office to Rep. Matt Salmon, R-Ariz., accompanied by his wife Nancy, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Salmon is part of the tea party movement that advocates small government, a tough line on immigration and opposes President Barack Obama at every turn. But Salmon also brings a unique perspective on Asia.**

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

in telecommunications and public relations. He has most recently chaired a subcommittee overseeing policy toward Latin and Central America, often probing the U.S. response to cross-border migration. He is a potential primary

challenger to one of the most prominent — and more moderate — Republicans, John McCain, if the senator seeks re-election next year as expected. The Asia panel Salmon will chair has become more active than its Senate counterpart, although traditionally the upper house

has been viewed as more influential in U.S. foreign policy, said former Republican Rep. Jim Leach, who chaired the subcommittee from 1996 to 2001. The political background of the chair matters less than their understanding of the region and staff support, he said. □



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## Tavenner, head of Medicare, Medicaid is stepping down

**ROBERT PEAR**

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**WASHINGTON** - Marilyn Tavenner, the administrator of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, who helped preside over the rollout of sweeping changes in the nation's health care system, said Friday that she was resigning.

"February will be my last month serving as the administrator for CMS," Tavenner said in an email to agency employees.

Tavenner, who was at the center of the disastrous debut of the federal insurance marketplace in October 2013, had given no public indications that she would be stepping down. She joined the administration in February 2010, a few weeks before President Barack Obama signed the

Affordable Care Act.

Tavenner was a senior official at the Medicare agency before she was confirmed by the Senate in May 2013 as administrator. The agency insures one in three Americans and has an annual budget of more than \$800 billion.

Sylvia Mathews Burwell, the secretary of health and human services, accepted the resignation in a statement filled with effusive praise of Tavenner.

"Marilyn will be remembered for her leadership in opening the health insurance marketplace," Burwell said. "In so doing, she worked day and night so that millions of Americans could finally obtain the security and peace of mind of quality health insurance at a price they could afford." □



## US Financial Front:

## American consumer prices drop 0.4 percent in December

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. consumer prices fell in December by the largest amount in six years, reflecting another big monthly decline in gas prices and providing further evidence of falling inflation pressures. The Labor Department said Friday that its consumer price index dropped 0.4 percent last month, the biggest one-month drop since December 2008. It was also the second straight monthly decline in prices with both months reflecting big decreases in gas prices, which have been tumbling in recent months because of the global plunge in oil prices. Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy, showed no increase in December, only the second time since 2010 that core prices have not risen.

"There is little inflation pressure in the United States or almost anywhere else for that matter," said Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capita Markets.

For all of 2014, overall inflation was up just 0.8 percent, the smallest annual increase since 2008.

Even before the big plunge in oil prices, inflation has been running levels well below the 2 percent that the Federal Reserve sees as an optimal annual in-

crease for prices. That has given the Fed leeway to keep a key interest rate at a record low to boost economic growth.

The Fed in December said that it intended to be "patient" about raising interest

rates, supporting the view among many economists that the first rate increase will not occur until June at the earliest. Some economists suggested that a big drop in inflation may cause the Fed to delay the first rate hike beyond June because of concerns about the threat of deflation, a situation of falling prices which can weaken economic growth. But other analysts said June remained the most likely date for the first Fed rate hike.



Shoppers stand outside the Kate Spade store at St. Louis Premium Outlets in Chesterfield, Mo. The Labor Department reported on consumer prices for December on Friday, Jan. 16, 2015.

(AP Photo/Robert Cohen)

Ethan Harris, chief econo-

mic growth.

Harris, chairman of an American Bankers Association forecasting panel, said the consensus view of the panel's 15 chief bank economists was that the Fed would begin raising rates by mid-2015 but that

the rate increases would be gradual.

"We expect the Fed to calibrate its policy to minimize any shock to growth," Harris said.

The 0.8 percent rise in prices for the year compared

cent for the 12 months ending in December. Core prices were held back in December by a big 5 percent drop in airline fares. Clothing prices fell 1.2 percent in December and new car prices dipped 0.1 percent. Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said both of those declines may have been influenced by recent gains in the value of the dollar.

In addition to plunging global oil prices, the dollar has been rising against other major currencies. That makes foreign-produced goods cheaper for U.S. consumers.

In December, gas prices fell 9.4 percent, the sixth consecutive monthly decline and the biggest drop since December 2008. The string of declines has left gas 19.1 percent lower than a year ago. Food prices edged up 0.3 percent in December and are 3.4 percent higher than a year ago. Some of the gains this year reflect drought conditions in California and other states. □

## US factory output grows 0.3 percent in December

**C. S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. factory production rose in December as manufacturers churned out more furniture, computers and clothing, offsetting a decline in autos.

Factory production increased 0.3 percent last month, the Federal Reserve said Friday, its fourth straight gain. The increase comes after output jumped 1.3 percent in November and finally surpassed its pre-recession peak.

The figures suggest that

manufacturing, spurred by greater consumer spending, provided a solid boost to the economy in the final three months of last year. Americans' appetite for cars, computers and clothing is offsetting slower growth overseas that is shrinking manufacturers' export markets.

"Manufacturing has been a growth driver throughout the U.S. recovery from the Great Recession, and will remain so in the near term," said Gus Faucher, an economist at PNC Financial. □

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# Kerry travels to Paris to show solidarity after attacks

**MICHAEL R. GORDON**

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PARIS - Secretary of State John Kerry on Friday capped off a morning full of high-level meetings and wreath-laying to commemorate France's struggle against terrorism by welcoming James Taylor at Paris' ornate City Hall.

After strumming a few bars of "La Marseillaise," the national anthem of France, Taylor lowered his head and played "You've Got a Friend," singing the final words in French.

Kerry had said Thursday that he wanted to "share a big hug with Paris" to demonstrate American friendship with "the longest ally in our history" after a three-day onslaught last week in which Islamist militants killed 17 people.

His visit here represented the Obama administration's effort to correct its failure to send a top official to a mass rally and solidarity march in Paris on Sunday that was attended by leaders of more than 40 countries.

If anybody was in a posi-

tion to erase an impression of U.S. indifference to France, it was Kerry, a Francophile who speaks French and has already made 18

day, Kerry did everything possible to do just that. His day began with a meeting with Laurent Fabius, the French foreign minister, in

He then went to the Élysée Palace, the presidential residence, where he hugged Hollande in the courtyard. They moved inside and sat

ror of everything that you went through."

"You, too, were the victims of a terrorist attack, on Sept. 11, 2001," Hollande said during his meeting with Kerry. "Together, we must find the necessary responses."

Kerry's motorcade then rushed to the kosher supermarket in eastern Paris where four people were killed after being taken hostage last Friday. The site has been turned into a memorial of flowers and candles. Accompanied by Fabius, Kerry presented a wreath made of red roses and white lilies, which rested on a tripod and bore a sash saying "United States of America." Kerry and his French counterpart spoke with Joël Mergui, the head of France's Rabbinical Council.

Kerry and Fabius then headed to the memorial site outside the offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, where they met with François Vauglin, the mayor of the 11th Arrondissement.

Kerry walked to the spot where a French police officer had been killed, to pay his respects.

Nicolas Jean, 26, a student in international politics, said that he appreciated Kerry's gesture.



France's President Francois Hollande, left, welcomes U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, at the Elysee Palace in Paris, Friday Jan. 16, 2015. Kerry arrived Friday in the French capital for American solidarity with the French people after last week's deadly terrorist attacks.

(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

trips to Paris as secretary of state. And for much of the

which Kerry explained that long-scheduled visits to India and Bulgaria earlier in the week had delayed his arrival here.

"That's why I couldn't come," Kerry said. "It's good to be with you. We have a lot to talk about."

at a table, flanked by their aides.

Kerry, speaking in English, said, "I think you know that you have the full and heartfelt condolences of the American people, and I know you know that we share the pain and the hor-

## AirAsia fuselage to be lifted to surface

**FADLAN SYAM**

**Associated Press**

**PANGKALAN BUN, Indonesia (AP)** — An Indonesian search official said Friday that the crashed AirAsia jet's fuselage will be lifted to the surface after sea conditions again prevented divers from examining the large chunk of wreckage.

National Search and Rescue Agency chief Henry Bambang Soelistyo said that rescue teams discovered more wreckage despite the strong current and poor visibility.

"Apart from the fuselage, we found what we suspected as the aircraft's cockpit and also an engine," he said. "We also found what seems to be a passenger

seat in which we thought there still bodies tied on it." He did not specify whether or not the seat was inside the fuselage section that sits on the seabed at a depth of 28 meters (92 feet). The 30-meter-long (100-foot-long) part of the plane body with a wing attached was sighted Wednesday.

Rescuers believe that many of the bodies are still inside the main fuselage.

Soelistyo said the failure of the underwater examination of the wreckage left no option but to lift the fuselage, either by using floating balloons as the tail part was lifted early this week, or using cranes from tugboats. He did not say when the operation would start.

He added that one victim's body was recovered on Friday, raising the total to 51. The plane had 162 people on board when it disappeared Dec. 28 en route from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore.

Bad weather is a suspected factor in the crash. The plane's flight data and cockpit flight recorders were retrieved earlier this week and will be key to learning the cause.

Earlier Friday, chief of operation of the agency, Suryadi Bambang Supriyadi said the wreckage that appears to be the cockpit was located by sonar imagery about 500 meters (yards) from the fuselage and partly embedded in the mud.



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## 4 shot during protest against Charlie Hebdo in Pakistan

ZIA ur-REHMAN  
SALMAN MASOOD  
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**KARACHI**, Pakistan - Clashes between the police and protesters outside the French Consulate in Karachi on Friday left four people with gunshot wounds, two of them journalists, as demonstrations erupted across Pakistan against the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and its publication of cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad.

The Karachi protest was led by the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, the country's largest religious party. The demonstrators threw stones at riot police officers, who responded with tear gas, water cannons and gunfire.

Among those injured was a photographer for the Agence France-Presse news agency, Asif Hassan. He had been shot in the chest and was "out of danger" after emergency surgery, said Dr. Seemi Jamali, head of the emergency ward at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center. The agency said

it was trying to determine whether Hassan had been specifically targeted. Protests in other Pakistani cities

holding a sign that read, "I am Charlie." The issue was the newspaper's first after an attack by jihadi gun-

cartoon as hate speech and called on the international community to "take a decisive step to stop

gious beliefs," said the resolution, which was passed with cross-party support.

In Islam, visual depictions of the Prophet Muhammad are widely considered to be forbidden, and are deeply offensive. Irreverent Western depictions of Muhammad have set off violent protests several times in recent years, and that was the case again in several countries Friday. In Niger, at least four were reported dead when a protest march turned violent, and many were reported injured when riot policemen clashed with protesters in Algeria, Reuters reported. The public reaction in Pakistan to the Charlie Hebdo shootings was initially muted, but it started to heat up Tuesday when a cleric in the northern city of Peshawar led a small crowd that praised the killers, Chérif and Saïd Kouachi, for having "defended the honor of the prophet of Islam."

On Friday, lawyers boycotted the courts in Peshawar and Multan, instead taking to the streets to protest. □



Supporters of a Pakistani religious party Jamaat-i-Islami rally to protest against caricatures published in French magazine Charlie Hebdo, in Peshawar, Pakistan, Friday, Jan. 16, 2015. Pakistani students are clashing with police during protests against the French satirical magazine that was attacked last week for publishing images of the Prophet Muhammad.

(AP Photo/Mohammad Sajjad)

passed largely peacefully, but they were the first major reaction since Charlie Hebdo published an issue depicting Muhammad

men killed 12 people in and around its office in Paris. On Thursday, the Pakistani parliament passed a resolution that condemned the

such practice." "Freedom of expression should not be misused as a means to attack or hurt public sentiments and reli-

## Ukraine peace talks fall apart amid renewed fighting

PETER LEONARD  
Associated Press

**KIEV, Ukraine (AP)** — Ukraine peace talks failed Friday as hostilities intensified between government forces and Russian-backed separatists in the east. The escalation in fighting has centered on the airport of the rebel stronghold, Donetsk, where rebel militia have renewed efforts to dislodge government troops. Separatists say they have almost total control over the civilian terminal, but Ukrainian troops say they still hold parts of the building.

Representatives from Ukraine and Russia, separatist envoys and officials of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe had been set to meet Friday in Minsk, Belarus, to discuss firming up a cease-fire to be monitored by the OSCE.

Rebel envoy Denis Pushilin, speaking in Minsk, blamed Ukrainians for the worsening security situation and said Kiev should have dispatched envoys capable of taking decisions to the talks. Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has represented his coun-

try at previous negotiation rounds, but declined to participate on this occasion. Residential areas in Donetsk remain caught in the artillery crossfire. Separatist authorities in Donetsk said four people died in a fire Thursday after a warehouse was hit by a shell. The U.N. estimates that more than 4,700 people have been killed in eastern Ukraine since April, and fighting has continued despite September's cease-fire deal that included a provision to pull back heavy weapons. A demarcation line, also

agreed in the previous deal signed in Minsk, has been routinely flouted. The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine on Friday accused the rebels of violating the boundary. "The separatists have pushed their lines well beyond the territorial lines agreed upon," Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt said in an emailed statement. Government officials and rebels have reported fighting along a front extending more than 350 kilometers (220 miles). A fresh truce was announced in December, only to unravel last week and derail

a planned meeting of the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France and Germany in Kazakhstan this week.

Ukraine says separatist forces are accumulating along the front line. Military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said rebels have mobilized large numbers of armored vehicles in the past few days, with a particular concentration noted in Horlivka, a city east of Donetsk.

"In Horlivka, there is a three-kilometer-long column of tanks heading in the direction of Ukrainian positions," he said. □



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## UN mission: Libyans at Geneva talks seek unity government

**ESAM MOHAMED**

**Associated Press**

**TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)** — Libyan negotiators holding talks in Geneva have agreed to work toward forming a national unity government for their shattered nation, the U.N. mission to the North African country announced on Friday.

However, the development fell short of making significant progress toward stability in Libya since representatives of one of the main rival groups — the Islamist-dominated parliament in the capital of Tripoli and the militias backing it — were absent from the talks in Switzerland.

Libya has been mired in its worst fighting since Moammar Gadhafi's regime was overthrown in 2011. Two rival governments are each backed by an array of militias that have effectively split the nation.

One government is based in Tripoli and supported by Islamist parties and powerful militias from the western



**U.N. Special Envoy to Libya Bernardino Leon, left, walks with Dr. Saleh Almkhozom, Second Deputy Chairman of the General National Congress, during their meeting in Tripoli, Libya.**  
(AP Photo/Mohammed Ben Khalifa)

city of Misrata. The second Cabinet has been chosen by Libya's elected parliament, which is internationally recognized but which was forced to relocate at gunpoint to the far eastern city of Tobruk where it now

holds sessions.

The fighting and violence has displaced hundreds of thousands of civilians, left hundreds killed and thousands wounded. Most foreign diplomats fled the country and shut their em-

bassies last year.

The talks hosted by the United Nations are aimed at reaching a ceasefire and laying the groundwork for a practical road map to end the conflict.

Lawlessness and a prolif-

eration of weapons have turned Libya into a magnet for Islamic extremists, including affiliates to the Islamic State group and al-Qaida.

On Friday, the U.N. mission to Libya said it concluded two days of talks in Geneva with Libyan representatives, during which the participants also agreed on pulling out all armed groups from Libyan cities.

The U.N. mission said the participants discussed "confidence-building measures," including the release of detainees from both sides, opening closed ports and securing safe freedom of movement around the country.

The talks were attended by representatives from the Tobruk-based parliament and some from the western cities of Misrata and Gharyan who support a peaceful resolution. Representatives from the Tripoli-based parliament and major militias backing it were absent. □

## Saudi delays more flogging of blogger on medical grounds

**AYA BATRAWY**

**Associated Press**

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates**

**(AP)** — Saudi authorities on Friday postponed the second round of public flogging of a blogger convicted of insulting Islam after a doctor concluded that his wounds from the first 50 lashes had not yet healed, a leading human rights group said.

Amnesty International said authorities delayed administering the 50 new lashes to Raif Badawi, which were set to take place after mid-day prayers. The group said Badawi was taken to a prison clinic in the morning for a check-up and that the doctor found that "he would not be able to withstand another round of lashes at

this time."

According to the group, the doctor recommended Badawi's flogging be postponed for a week.

Badawi's first public flogging took place last Friday before dozens of people in the Red Sea city of Jiddah. The father of three was taken to a public square, his feet and hands bound, and whipped 50 times on his back before being taken back to prison.

A person close to Badawi's case said King Abdullah's Royal Court late last year referred the case to the Supreme Judicial Council, which has the power to refer it to yet another court. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity for

fear of government retribution, said the Council has yet to respond.

The 90 year-old Saudi monarch, who was diagnosed recently with pneumonia, has not been involved in the proceedings.

Badawi was sentenced in May to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashes for criticizing Saudi Arabia's powerful clerics and ridiculing the country's morality police on a liberal blog he founded. The Jiddah Criminal Court also ordered he pay a fine of 1 million Saudi riyals, or about \$266,000.

The lashes are to be administered over 20 weekly sessions, with 50 lashes each week. Both the U.S. State Department and the U.N.

high commissioner for human rights have called on authorities in Saudi Arabia to cancel the punishment. Rights groups and activists say his case is part of a wider clampdown on dissent in the kingdom. Criticism of clerics is seen as a red line because of their influential role in supporting government policies. The clerics' ultraconservative Wahhabi interpretation of religion is effectively the law of the land.

The 31-year-old Badawi has been held since mid-2012 and his Free Saudi Liberals website is now closed. He was originally sentenced in 2013 to seven years in prison and 600 lashes in relation to the charges, but after an

appeal, the judge stiffened the punishment. Following his arrest, his wife and children left the kingdom for Canada.

Badawi's lawyer, Waleed Abul-Khair, was sentenced to 15 years in prison and barred from traveling for another 15 years after he was convicted by an anti-terrorism court of "undermining the regime and officials," "inciting public opinion" and "insulting the judiciary." "The notion that Raif Badawi must be allowed to heal so that he can suffer this cruel punishment again and again is macabre and outrageous," said Said Boumedouha, Amnesty's deputy director for Middle East and North Africa. □



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## Pope strongly defends church teaching against contraception

NICOLE WINFIELD

OLIVER TEVES

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Pope Francis issued his strongest defense yet of church teaching opposing artificial contraception on Friday, using a rally in Asia's largest Catholic nation to urge families to be "sanctuaries of respect for life."

Francis also denounced the corruption that has plagued the Philippines for decades and urged officials to instead work to end its "scandalous" poverty and social inequalities during his first full day in Manila, where he received a rock star's welcome at every turn.

Security was tighter than it has ever been for this pope, who relishes plunging into crowds. Cellphone service around the city was intentionally jammed for a second day on orders of the National Telecommunications Commission and roadblocks along Francis' motorcade route snarled traffic for miles (kilometers).

Police vans followed his motorcade while officers formed human chains in front of barricades to hold back the tens of thousands of wildly cheering Filipinos who packed boulevards for hours just for a glimpse of his four-door Volkswagen passing by.

Police said another 86,000 gathered outside one of Manila's biggest sports arenas, capacity 20,000, where Francis held his first encounter with the Filipino masses: a meeting with families. There, he firmly upheld church teaching opposing artificial contraception and endeared himself to the crowd with off-the-cuff jokes and even a well-intentioned attempt at sign language.

Francis has largely shied away from emphasizing church teaching on hot-button issues, saying the previous two popes made the teaching well-known and that he wants to focus on making the church a place of welcome, not rules. But his comments were clearly a nod to the local church, which recently lost a significant fight when President Benigno Aquino III pushed through a reproductive health law that allows the government to provide artificial birth control to the poor.

"Be sanctuaries of respect for life, proclaiming the sacredness of every human life from conception to natural death," Francis exhorted the crowd. "What a gift this would be to society if every Christian family lived fully its noble vocation."

He then deviated from his prepared remarks to praise Pope Paul VI for having "courageously" resisted calls for an opening in church teaching on sexuality in the 1960s. Paul penned the 1968 encyclical "Humanae Vitae" which enshrined the church's opposition to artificial birth control.

Francis noted that Paul was aware that some families would find it difficult to uphold the teaching and "he asked confessors to be particularly compassionate and understandable for particular cases."

But he nevertheless said Paul was prescient in resisting the trends of the times. □



Thousands of North Koreans gathered at the Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang, North Korea, to rally in support of their leader Kim Jong Un's address to his country. The words on banners read: Let's build a sports power, top left, and Let's put an emphasis on cutting-edge science and technology, top right. (AP Photo/Jon Chol Jin)

## North Korean hand suspected as Myanmar sweeps up 'Interview' bootlegs

WAI MOE

© 2015 New York Times

**YANGON, Myanmar** - Long before Sony Pictures Entertainment released "The Interview," a comedy about a fictitious CIA plot to kill North Korea's leader, Pyongyang had declared war against the movie. Now it appears that the country's diplomats have taken the dispute to the streets of Yangon, Myanmar.

DVD vendors in Yangon, Myanmar's largest city, said that in recent days, officials from the North Korean Embassy visited shops across the city, asking whether they sold copies of "The Interview." Sony has released the movie to theaters and Internet services in the United States but has not begun selling DVDs - although bootleg copies have been widely available in many places, including Yangon. This week, DVD sellers here said, police officers began a citywide crackdown against pirated copies,

sometimes accompanied by North Korean officials. "The Interview" - up till then a best-seller - has now disappeared from the city's larger DVD shops. Many roadside vendors have also stopped hawking the movie.

"During a raid, a police officer who has known me for a long time told me the list of DVD shops selling 'The Interview' was provided by the North Korean Embassy," said Daw Thin, a DVD seller in the city's Chinatown district.

U Ye Htut, the information minister and a presidential spokesman, denied that the latest clampdown on bootleg DVDs targeted any individual movie.

Repeated calls to the North Korean Embassy in Yangon went unanswered. But an officer in Yangon's Special Branch police, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of fears he would be dismissed for talking to the news media, said the North Korean ambas-

sador, Kim Sok-chol, complained about DVD sales of "The Interview" when he met Yangon's chief minister, U Myint Swe, a week ago and provided a list of shops selling them.

U Lin Lin, a DVD vendor near the Bogyoke market in central Yangon, said the police mainly took copies of "The Interview." He added that North Korean officials were alongside the Burmese authorities during their raids.

"The Interview" DVDs have been available since the first week of January. And then it becomes best-selling," he said. "For a small roadside vendor like me, I sold around 20 copies a day, and big shops in Chinatown sold more than 100 copies a day before the crackdown." U Marn Thu Shein, a journalist affiliated with Eleven Media Group, a major news outlet, said "The Interview" DVDs disappeared from the streets after the police crackdown started Monday. □



## Obama's Cuba policy depends partly on hotel towels

M. WEISSENSTEIN

A. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

**HAVANA (AP)** — The success of President Barack Obama's new Cuba policy depends partly on hotel

means that if visitors come in numbers as great as expected, they will have to find lodging either in grim, lower-end state facilities or one of the most vibrant parts of Cuba's small, new

can travelers choose to lay their heads at night.

"A significant increase in U.S. travelers would overwhelm the system and overwhelm the availability of the Cubans to keep

to help him communicate with future clients at Casa Vitrales, an immaculately restored high-end colonial guest house he runs with his son in Old Havana.

"This is going to help our business and the country," Hernandez said of Obama's new policy. "It opens new opportunities for guest houses to absorb a greater number of tourists." The new Treasury Department rules that went into effect Friday eliminate a burdensome and costly requirement for specially licensed tour groups to obtain federal permits to take U.S. travelers to Cuba on trips with educational itineraries that needed approval in Washington.

Most U.S. travelers still will be required to go on supervised group trips, but now virtually any U.S. company or organization can offer such trips without the paperwork and inspections that discouraged past expansion of travel to Cuba. Some tour operators, already seeing unprecedented interest in legal travel to Cuba, expect some tourists to simply ignore the restrictions. Companies that have been organizing travel to Cuba for years say they expect legal travel to Cuba to at least double this year, from a figure of roughly 90,000 American visitors annually over recent years. And any significant surge, they say, is guaranteed to overwhelm Cuba's travel infrastructure. □



Classic cars drive down the Paseo de Marti in front of Cuba's National Capitol Building in Havana. The success of President Barack Obama's new Cuba policy depends partly on hotel hand towels. (Meridith Kohut/The New York Times)

hand towels.

Not just hand towels, but working air conditioning, breakfast waffles and the hundreds of other amenities that American tourists will demand when they flood to Cuba in numbers that travel experts expect to double this year, thanks to the loosening of travel restrictions on Friday.

U.S.-based Cuba travel companies say there's simply no more room in the handful of top-end Cuban hotels that meet international standards. That

private business sector: family-run guest houses that offer independent sources of private income to thousands of Cubans.

That scenario is exactly what Obama said he hopes to achieve. When he announced the policy on Dec. 17, the president said that the U.S. wants to be "a partner in making the lives of ordinary Cubans a little bit easier, more free, more prosperous."

The first test of the new U.S. approach may come down to where new Ameri-

tabs and keep controls on these travelers," a U.S. official involved in the execution of the new policy told The Associated Press on Friday. "The hotels aren't going to be able to handle it. You're going to see a spill-over into the private sector, which is a good thing." The official spoke on condition of anonymity due to lack of authorization to speak publicly about the new policy.

Juan Hernandez Rabelo, 65, is taking English lessons three times a week

## Puerto Rico man charged in record heist back home

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico**

**(AP)** — Supporters of Puerto Rican independence welcomed a 69-year-old islander home Thursday after serving jail time for his role in the 1983 holdup of a Wells Fargo depot in Connecticut that netted his militant group \$7 million — the largest heist in U.S. history at the time.

Norberto Gonzalez Claudio arrived in the U.S. territory just hours after being released from a prison in Florida. About 150 supporters raised fists and waved Puerto Rican flags as Gonzalez emerged from the airport. Steadied by his wife, he stood on a bench and briefly addressed the crowd in a quiet voice.

"Thank you so much for everything," he said. "Long live a free Puerto Rico!"

Gonzalez eluded the FBI for decades until his arrest in May 2011 while on a morning walk in the central mountain town of Cayey. FBI agents believe he had been living in Puerto Rico all that time under a false name. In June 2012, he pleaded guilty to foreign transportation of stolen money and conspiracy to rob federally insured bank funds as part of a plea agreement.

Avelino Gonzalez, a 72-year-old brother convicted previously in the heist, told The Associated Press that they would never give up the fight for independence.

"We're going to improve his health so he can join the fight once again," Avelino said of his brother. The brothers belonged to the militant group Los Macheteros. The group claimed responsibility for several robberies, killings and bombings, mostly in the 1970s and 1980s, but it has not been tied to any recent violent incidents.

None of the \$7 million was recovered. Authorities say it was used to finance the attacks staged by Los Macheteros. □

## Cuba to print higher-denomination banknotes

A. RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

**HAVANA (AP)** — Cuba will print bills of 200, 500 and 1,000 pesos that will start to circulate in February, a step forward in the government's plan to unify its dual-currency system.

A Cuban Central Bank resolution published Thursday said the new banknotes will extend the range of the current bills, which only reach 100 pesos.

Most Cubans earn and buy goods in local pesos worth about 4 U.S. cents apiece. Tourism, one of the island's

main sources of foreign exchange, operates on the convertible peso, a special currency worth roughly one U.S. dollar.

The double currency allows Cuba to theoretically split the country between a realm of highly subsidized prices in Cuban pesos and a convertible-peso economy where prices more closely resemble those of U.S. or European cities. But the system has led to economic distortions and created a new class of privileged Cubans with access to convertible pesos.

Cuba's government announced in 2013 that it would eliminate the double currency but did not set out a timetable for the switch. Central Bank Vice President Francisco Mayorbe told state newspaper Granma that in recent months a lot of stores that sell in convertible pesos have started accepting local pesos, with the price set after establishing the exchange rate.

This means that customers and businesses must increasingly handle larger quantities of cash, a prob-

lem accentuated by the fact that the country's largest banknote, the 100-peso bill, is worth about 4 U.S. dollars.

Barbara Soto Sanchez, an official with state company Cimex, said most sales are carried out with 20- or 50-peso bills, which makes buying expensive products like electrical appliances or furniture difficult.

"To buy them, the customer has to bring in a large quantity of cash under conditions that are not always optimal," Soto Sanchez told Granma. □





## Its Last Phase of Development:

# Gold Coast Introduces the Boca Druif & Boca Grandi Condos

**ORANJESTAD** - Gold Coast, Aruba's largest and fastest growing residential community, is also the island's newest master-planned residential community. While the majority of homes are occupied by happy owners, a great number of owned townhouses and villas are also renting to transient guests making Gold Coast Villas Aruba a unique vacation destination, open for leisure and ready for business.

The Gold Coast rental program has become exceedingly popular in recent years because it provides great value for families or couples traveling together, and looking for the extra space that only a residence provides.

Additionally, the savings are substantial when one compares the rental price of a Gold Coast residence to any of Aruba's fine 4 star resorts' accommodations.

The growth in demand for vacation rentals prompted the construction and the sale of Gold Coast's final phase, the Boca Druif & Boca Grandi condos.

Recently, that last phase of development was revealed and it includes the stylish additional condo units finalized.

The units, 36 in total, with 2 and 3 bedroom options, are located in the Mangroves V6 section, on the south side of the residence. The spacious one story condos are tastefully appointed and equipped with the latest energy saving, state-of-the-art appliances.

The 2 bedroom Boca Druif Condos, measure 115m<sup>2</sup>, and are available on both the ground and the upper floors. The upper floor condos feature 2 balconies and a private rooftop terrace overlooking the beautiful outdoors. Own-



ers may enjoy the private rooftop terrace designed to comfortably entertain guests or just relax. The property offers more than 50 parking spaces and the pairing of beautiful landscaping with ample parking creates a highly functional yet truly enjoyable recreational living environment.

For real estate buyers seeking a more spacious footprint, the 3 bedroom Boca Grandi condo, measures 129m<sup>2</sup>, and is just as beautiful as its 2 bedroom Boca Druif sister. The condos are available on both the ground and upper floor. The ground floor condos enjoy a spacious patio while the upper floor condos feature 2 balconies and a private rooftop terrace overlooking the beautiful outdoors. The private rooftop terrace was designed to comfortably entertain guests or just relax.

The property offers more than 50 parking spaces, and the pairing of beautiful landscaping with ample parking creates a highly functional yet truly enjoyable recreational living environment.

When all complete, Gold Coast will boast over 260 residences, in 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses, single level 3 bedroom condos, and 3 and 4 bedroom villa homes, set among 26 acres of lush landscaping, picturesque plazas, and fountains, within the walls of a fully secure community.

The design of Gold Coast Villas Aruba was conceived by the dynamic Croes family members, whose original vision now results in beauty, quality, style, security, and convenience, properly financed and well constructed, in strict adherence to budgets and time-tables. □



## NFL Conference Championship Sunday!

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NFC, will the Green Bay Packers be able to muscle out the reigning Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks? The drama will be high in both games, so you



won't want to miss a minute, and the best place to watch is at Touchdown Sports Bar & Grill!

Our extensive menu offers daily specials, including our "2-for-1 savory burgers" on Tuesday, delicious steak and seafood grills, or try our famous "Sunday BBQ Bash" that will surely have you coming back for more! The bar offers a wide variety of your favorite beer or

you may want to try one of our house specialty cocktails at our daily fun filled happy hours.

Don't forget to ask for Rey, our Top "Mixologist," and his "cocktail of the day."

So whether you want to cheer on your favorite NFL team this weekend or enjoy a relaxing cocktail out on the terrace, Touchdown Sports Bar & Grill is the place to be! ☐








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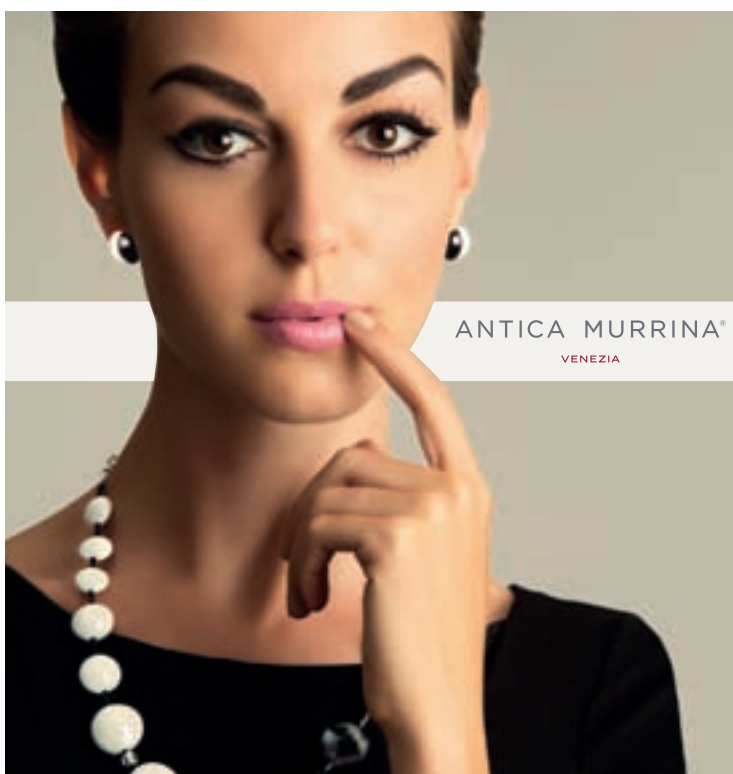
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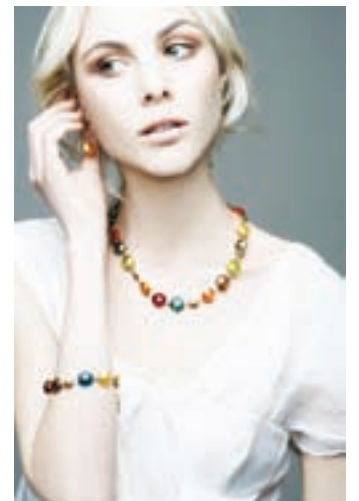
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Contact: [muranoaruba@gmail.com](mailto:muranoaruba@gmail.com) facebook.com/muranobijouxand-more

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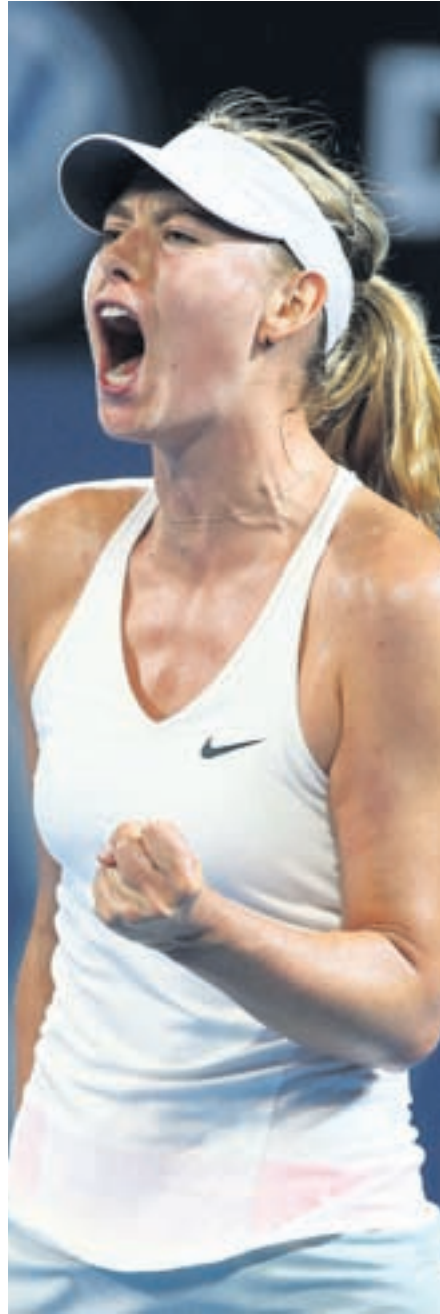
For more information visit the website [www.lingandsons.com](http://www.lingandsons.com), or visit their Facebook page Lingandsons1ga, Grand Opening of Ling & Sons Fresh Juice and Coffee Corner.







# Australian Open Preview



From L to R: Serena Williams of the U.S reacts to her play during her match; Maria Sharapova of Russia reacts to winning a point in her women's final match; Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a shot in the men's final match and Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns the ball.

Associated Press  
Page 22

## Plenty of different Grand Slam chances

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## Baseball Contracts Roundup

# Lynn gets \$22M deal from Cards as 21 in arbitration settle

RONALD BLUM  
AP Sports Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — St. Louis pitcher Lance Lynn was among 21 players who avoided salary arbitration by agreeing to contracts Thursday, reaching a \$22 million, three-year deal with the Cardinals.

Milwaukee catcher Martin Maldonado agreed to a \$1.95 million, two-year contract, and 19 players struck one-year agreements. Among the 175 players who filed for arbitration Tuesday, 149 were on track to exchange proposed arbitration figures with their teams Friday. A majority of those were expected to settle beforehand. High-profile players not yet settled include pitchers David Price, Stephen Strasburg, Jeff Samardzija, Rick Porcello, Ian Kennedy, Doug Fister and Kenley Jansen, plus position players Chris Davis, Matt Wieters, Austin Jackson and Mark Trumbo.

Pittsburgh had the most players in arbitration with 12, while Baltimore had 10, and Kansas City and Oakland nine each.



In this Oct. 12, 2014, file photo, St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Lance Lynn throws during the second inning in Game 2 of the National League baseball championship series against the San Francisco Giants in St. Louis.

Associated Press

Lynn gets \$7 million this year and \$7.5 million in each of the following two seasons. He earned \$535,000 last year, when he was 15-10 with a 2.74 ERA in 33 starts. Cardinals outfielder Peter Bourjos,

coming off hip surgery in November, agreed at \$1.65 million and St. Louis backup catcher Tony Cruz at \$775,000.

Maldonado, who hit .234 with four homers and 16 RBIs, gets a

\$50,000 signing bonus and salaries of \$800,000 this year and \$1.1 million in 2016.

The Chicago White Sox agreed with pitchers Hector Noesi (\$1.95 million), Javy Guerra (\$937,500) and Nate Jones (\$660,000), and Washington reached deals with catchers Wilson Ramos (\$3.55 million) and Jose Lobaton (\$1.2 million), pitcher Craig Stammen (\$2.25 million) and second baseman Danny Espinosa (\$1.8 million).

Cleveland settled with pitchers Carlos Carrasco (\$2,337,500) and Marc Rzepczynski (\$2.4 million) and third baseman Lonnie Chisenhall (\$2.25 million).

Also agreeing were Texas reliever Neftali Feliz (\$4,125,000), Atlanta pitcher James Russell (\$2,425,000), Los Angeles Angels catcher Hector Santiago (\$2.29 million), Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Chris Heisey (\$2.16 million), Toronto pitcher Brett Cecil (\$2,475,000), Chicago Cubs pitcher Felix Doubront (\$1,925,000) and Houston catcher Carlos Corporan (\$975,000). □

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## NHL Capsules

# Wild snap 6-game skid in Dubnyk's debut

### The Associated Press

**BUFFALO, New York (AP)** — Devan Dubnyk stopped 18 shots for his 10th career shutout in his Minnesota debut, Jason Pominville had three assists against his former team, and the Wild snapped a six-game skid with a 7-0 win over the Buffalo Sabres on Thursday night.

The Sabres extended their losing streak to nine — all decided in regulation. No NHL has done that since the Edmonton Oilers lost nine straight in regulation from Feb. 25 to March 15, 2007, according to STATS. Zach Parise, Kyle Brodziak and Erik Haula had a goal and assist each in a game in which the Wild scored five times on their first 25 shots, and before the second period was over. Thomas Vanek, another ex-Sabres star, also had a goal and assist for Minnesota, which had its largest margin of victory in franchise history.

Matt Cooke, Matt Dumba and Jared Spurgeon also scored for the Wild, who rebounded from a 7-2 loss at Pittsburgh on Tuesday.

### CANUCKS 4, FLYERS 0

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Henrik Sedin had a goal and an assist, and Ryan Miller made 29 saves to lead the Vancouver Canucks over the Philadelphia Flyers.

Nick Bonino, Radim Vrbata and Jannik Hansen also scored for Vancouver, which snapped a three-game losing streak and broke out of a scoring slump. The Canucks tallied just two goals during their skid. It was Miller's fourth shutout this season and 33rd of his NHL career. He returned to the net after missing two games due to illness. Philadelphia dropped its second straight and fell further out of play-off contention. The Flyers entered Thursday 11 points out of a wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference.

### BRUINS 3, RANGERS 0

**BOSTON (AP)** — Tuukka Rask stopped 30 shots for his second shutout, Patrice Bergeron scored a first-pe-

riod goal, and the Boston Bruins won their fifth straight by beating the New York Rangers.

The Rangers have lost 3-0 in consecutive games after winning five straight and 13 of 14.

David Krejci and Loui Eriksson also scored for Boston, which has earned points in nine consecutive games (6-0-3). Torey Krug added two assists. It was Rask's 25th NHL shutout.

Cam Talbot made 29 saves for the Rangers, with top goalie Henrik Lundqvist getting the night off.

### SENATORS 4, CANADIENS 1

### OTTAWA, Ontario (AP)

Jean-Gabriel Pageau scored his first goal of the season to help lead the Ottawa Senators past the Montreal Canadiens.

Mika Zibanejad, Erik Karlsson and Erik Condra also scored for the Senators. Craig Anderson stopped 25 shots in his 399th game and has allowed two goals or less in eight of his last 10 starts.

Max Pacioretty scored the lone goal for the Canadiens as Dustin Tokarski turned away 31 of 34 shots. It marked the Senators' first home game since returning from a four-game road trip, where Ottawa went 1-2-1 and they looked motivated from the start right through the final buzzer.

### LIGHTNING 3, OILERS 2

### TAMPA, Fla. (AP)

Ondrej Palat scored a pair of third-period goals, and the Eastern Conference-leading Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Edmonton Oilers.

Steven Stamkos also scored in his fourth straight game for the Lightning, who overtook the idle New York Islanders atop the East.

Tampa Bay finished a run of 21 games that included a 6-0-1 record against Edmonton, Buffalo and Carolina, the NHL's worst three teams. The Lightning went 5-8-1 against other opponents during that stretch.

Edmonton, which has lost 14 consecutive road games, got two goals from Benoit Pouliot. He has scored the last five Oilers



NASCAR Sprint Cup driver Brad Keselowski, right, holds a hockey sweater as he talks to Tampa Bay Lightning defenseman Jason Garrison before an NHL hockey game between the Lightning and the Edmonton Oilers, Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015, in Tampa, Fla. Keselowski, along with 19 other drivers are taking part in a cross-country media tour promoting the Daytona 500 auto race.

Associated Press

goals.

### RED WINGS 3, BLUES 2, OT

### ST. LOUIS (AP)

Pavel Datyuk scored at 4:57 of overtime to give the Detroit Red

Wings a win over the St. Louis Blues.

Detroit won for the fourth time in five games and completed a six-game

road trip with a 4-2 mark. Petr Mrazek made 25 saves and improved to 3-0 in four career appearances against St. Louis.

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## NBA Capsules

# James scores 36, Cavs end 6-game slide

**The Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — LeBron James scored 36 points and the Cleveland Cavaliers snapped their six-game losing streak with a 109-102 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers despite Kobe Bryant's 19 points and career-high 17 assists.

Kyrie Irving added 22 points for Cleveland, which had lost nine of 10 before James held off Bryant down the stretch in an entertaining duel between two basketball icons.

Bryant hit a 3-pointer with 1:54 left and two free throws with 43 seconds to play, cutting Cleveland's lead to 103-99. But James drove past Bryant for an acrobatic layup with 20.9 seconds left, and Bryant missed a jumper that essentially ended it.

Jordan Hill scored 20 points in the Lakers' ninth loss in 12



**Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James, right, guards Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant as Bryant passes the ball during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015, in Los Angeles.**

**Associated Press**

games.

**ROCKETS 112, THUNDER 101 HOUSTON (AP)** — James Harden scored 15 of his 31 points in Houston's big first quarter against Oklahoma City.

Harden came just short of a

triple-double with 10 assists and nine rebounds. Trevor Ariza added 17 points and four steals for Houston. The Rockets led 40-18 after one and bounced back after a loss to Orlando on Wednesday night that snapped a

four-game winning streak. Kevin Durant had 24 points and 10 rebounds for the Thunder. They have lost three of their last four games.

**BUCKS 95, KNICKS 79**

**LONDON (AP)** — O.J. Mayo scored 22 points, Brandon Knight had 20 points and six steals, and the Milwaukee Bucks routed New York 95-79 on Thursday night, extending the Knicks' franchise-record losing streak to 16.

With the Knicks showing why they have lost 26 of 27 games and are an NBA-worst 5-36, the contest was a poor advertisement for the NBA in its annual London game that showcases its brand overseas.

The Knicks missed their first 10 shots — three in a 6-second span — and gave up 14 offensive rebounds, 10 in the first half. The Bucks took

a 12-0 lead, were up by 24 in the second quarter and never let New York closer than 11 the rest of the way. The return of Carmelo Anthony and Amare Stoudemire did little to spark New York.

Anthony led the Knicks with 25 points. Stoudemire was scoreless in 8 first-half minutes and didn't play after the break. Anthony missed the previous six games because of a knee problem, and Stoudemire had been sidelined since Dec. 25, also with a knee injury. □



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# Chicago Bears hire John Fox as coach

ANDREW SELIGMAN

AP Sports Writer

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) --

John Fox has a reputation for turning around teams. The Bears are counting on him to do just that.

Fox was hired as Chicago's coach Friday, four days after he and the Denver Broncos parted ways.

He was widely seen as a likely candidate to replace the fired Marc Trestman once he left the Broncos on Monday, given his record and his ties to consultant Ernie Accorsi and new general manager Ryan Pace. Fox was the defensive coordinator for the New York Giants from 1997 to 2001 when Accorsi was the GM. Saints coach Sean Payton was the offensive coordinator for part of that time, and he is tight with Pace, who was hired out of New Orleans' front office.

Fox has a 119-89 regular-season record in 13 years with Carolina (2002-10) and Denver (2011-14), with six division titles and seven playoff appearances. He is one of six coaches to lead two franchises to Super Bowl appearances, joining Don Shula, Bill Parcells, Dan Reeves, Dick Vermeil and Mike Holmgren.

Fox comes to Chicago with a reputation for overseeing turnarounds, and he will try to do just that after the Bears went 5-11 and missed the playoffs for the seventh time in eight years.

"I would say he's an easy-going guy, but he's still old-school football," Bears linebacker D.J. Williams, who played for Fox in Denver, told Chicago's WMVP-AM. "It's very hard to find a blend of that, somebody who's like real hard-nosed, but laid-back at the same time."

Fox took over a team in Denver that went 4-12 the previous year and led them to the AFC West title all four seasons, with Tim Tebow at quarterback the first season and Peyton Manning the next three.

Carolina went 1-15 in 2001,

the year before Fox arrived. In his second season, the Panthers went to the Super Bowl with Jake Delhomme at quarterback.

Fox got back there last year with Manning, but the Broncos were blown out 43-8 by Seattle. That convinced general manager John Elway to spend \$60 million in guarantees on new defensive players so his quarterback shouldn't have to carry the load by himself.

Fox, who in the past was criticized for being too conservative, drew more scrutiny midway through this season when the Broncos altered their offense and started to focus more on the run.

Fox becomes the Bears' 15th head coach and first with previous NFL experience since founder George Halas returned to the sideline for his fourth and final stint in 1958. The only other was Paddy Driscoll, who began a two-year run in 1956.

The Bears decided a shake-up was necessary after a season that began with expectations of a playoff run fell apart. They fired general manager Phil Emery and Trestman, the first steps in what they hope will be a drastic turnaround.

Chicago also interviewed former Buffalo Bills coach Doug Marrone, Detroit Lions defensive coordinator Teryl Austin, Seattle defensive coordinator Dan Quinn, Denver offensive coordinator Adam Gase and then-Arizona defensive coordinator Todd Bowles, who was hired by the Jets.

Guard Kyle Long was looking forward to playing for Fox.

"Met Coach Fox night before I participated in the combine in passing at dinner. Now he's my coach. Was a very likable dude!! Let's roll," he wrote on Twitter.

With Pace and Fox in place, the Bears can turn their attention toward filling the front office and coaching staffs and addressing a

long list of roster issues.

The Bears must decide if they're going to stick with quarterback Jay Cutler after the offense took a big step backward and do something about a defense that has ranked among the league's worst the past two years.

Chicago has been to the playoffs just four times since the start of the 1995 season and only once since the 2006 team's Super Bowl run. The Bears thought they had a contender with a high-scoring offense returning intact and a rebuilt defense to go with it. What happened instead was a season-long soap opera that ended with the general manager and coach getting fired.

There was one distraction after another, whether it was linebacker Lance Briggs being allowed to miss practice to open a restaurant in California the week of the opener, former offensive coordinator Aaron Kromer admitting he was the NFL Network's source behind a critical report of Cutler late in the season or Cutler getting benched in favor Jimmy Clausen late in the season.

Cutler, who signed a \$126 million, seven-year contract at the end of last season, tied Philip Rivers for the league lead with 18 interceptions. That deal makes him difficult if not impossible to trade. Cutting him is a possibility.

Receiver Brandon Marshall played in just 13 games and too often drew attention for reasons that had nothing to do with his performance.

Marshall, who is open about his struggles with borderline personality disorder, at one point gave a rambling news conference over past allegations of domestic abuse. He also challenged a Detroit fan to a charity boxing match on Twitter and was allowed to fly to New York on a weekly basis to record Showtime's "Inside the NFL."



In this Nov. 2, 2014, file photo, then-Denver Broncos head coach John Fox cheers for his team from the sideline against the New England Patriots in the first half an NFL football game in Foxborough, Mass. Associated Press

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New guard, old guard?

# Plenty of different Grand Slam chances



Milos Raonic of Canada plays a shot in the men's final match against Roger Federer of Switzerland during the Brisbane International tennis tournament in Brisbane, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 11, 2015.

Associated Press

**DENNIS PASSA**  
AP Sports Writer

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**

— After a year which featured eight Grand Slam singles champions, there's been plenty of talk ahead of the Australian Open about the new guard vs. the old guard in both men's and women's tennis. The champions recently have been, well, just different.

Stan Wawrinka claimed his first career major last year in Australia. Strike one for the new. Then Rafael Nadal won the French Open, his ninth at Roland Garros, and Novak Djokovic won Wimbledon for his seventh major. The next generation struck back when Marin Cilic won the U.S. Open.

Four women shared the Grand Slams, too — the now-retired Li Na at Melbourne last year, Maria Sharapova at Roland Garros, Petra Kvitova at Wimbledon and Serena Williams at the U.S. Open.

So what can we expect in 2015?

At the Australian Open, at least, the top-ranked players who also have nine Australian titles between them are reliable options. That would be Djokovic with four titles in Melbourne and Williams with five.

Still holding court for the men's side is 33-year-old

Roger Federer, aiming to add to his 17 Grand Slam titles — four of them also at Melbourne — and who just notched his 1,000th career match win to capture the Brisbane International with a victory over Milos Raonic on Jan. 11.

"Clearly I do believe I have a shot in Melbourne, otherwise I would go home," Federer said in Brisbane.

Federer received good news in that department Friday during the tournament draw — he will play Lu Yen-hsun of Taiwan in the first round, a player he has beaten all three times they've played.

Rafael Nadal's appendix surgery in early November has left him uncertain of his match fitness ahead of Monday's start of the tournament. He'll have a tough first-round match against former top-10 player Mikhail Youzhny of Russia.

Then there's Andy Murray, who seems to have recovered from back surgery late last year and a minor left shoulder complaint at the start of this one. A three-time Australian Open finalist, Murray drew a qualifier in the first round and could play Federer in the quarterfinals.

Add Wawrinka, along with the so-called "young guns" — among them Grigor



Australian Open champions of 2014 China's Li Na and Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka pose with their trophies in front of Rod Laver Arena during a ceremony for the official draw ahead of the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Friday, Jan. 16, 2015.

Associated Press



Spanish player Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Michael Berrer of Germany during the Qatar ATP Open Tennis tournament in Doha, Qatar, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2015.

Associated Press

Dimitrov, U.S. Open finalist Kei Nishikori, Raonic and Australian Nick Kyrgios, who beat Nadal at Wimbledon last year — to the potential trophy winners.

Djokovic and Raonic, who both open against qualifiers, are in the same quarter of the draw.

Serena Williams hasn't been back to the Australian Open final since her last title here in 2010, but can never be ruled out of contention — even with the kind of indifferent preparation she's had.

No. 2 Sharapova warmed up with a win at the Brisbane International last weekend, beating Ana

Ivanovic in the final.

Sharapova drew a qualifier in the first round here and could meet 20-year-old Eugenie Bouchard, who reached the Wimbledon final and the semis in Australia and France last year, in the quarterfinals.

Two-time winner Victoria Azarenka, unseeded after an injury-hit 2014, faces Sloane Stephens in the first round in a rematch of their acrimonious semifinal two years ago when Azarenka left the court for a medical timeout and Stephens questioned her reasons for doing so. Stephens was coming off a big upset win over Serena Williams at the

time.

Until 2014, there'd been very few surprises in men's majors for nearly nine years as three players ruled: Federer, Nadal and Djokovic combined for 32 of the 35 titles in that span. The exceptions were Juan Martin del Potro at the 2009 U.S. Open and Murray's wins at the 2012 U.S. Open and Wimbledon in 2013.

Then Wawrinka won here last year and Cilic in New York. Cilic won't play in Melbourne because of a right shoulder injury.

Del Potro drew one of the toughest first-round assignments in Melbourne this year, taking on 24-year-old Jerzy Janowicz, who won last week's Hopman Cup with Poland teammate Agnieszka Radwanska.

As he reviewed results of tournaments at the start of 2015, Federer paid the new breed of players such as Janowicz and Dimitrov a compliment, but then appeared to take it away.

"I do believe there is a group of guys right there that can make a break again and can do special things," Federer said in Brisbane. "I just think it's too early to say in the season just because Novak and Rafa lost in Doha that there is something on the horizon."

"I don't read into any of those results. I think (Djokovic and Nadal) are going to be tough to beat, and favorites for the Australian Open."

The biggest question mark through the opening week, at least, will be Nadal's fitness after he spent three months out with a right wrist injury after Wimbledon, and later had the appendix trouble.

Nadal, however, looked fit this week, enduring a strenuous training session before taking part in a night for his children's charity to officially re-open the Margaret Court Arena, now Melbourne Park's third venue with a retractable roof. "I'm working as hard as I can," Nadal said. "I'm back, and I am healthy." □



# VC firms rain down cash on tech startups, is bubble brewing?

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Cash rained down on startups in 2014, as venture capitalists poured a whopping \$48.3 billion into new U.S. companies — levels not seen since before the dot-com bubble burst in 2001. Strong technology IPOs are luring investors chasing the next big return, but with valuations this high, critics suggest some investors may be setting themselves up for a major fall.

"It's not that many businesses aren't viable, but the question is, what are you paying for them?" said Mark Cannice, a professor of entrepreneurship at the University of San Francisco. Venture funding surged more than 60 percent in 2014 from the prior year, most often fueling software and biotechnology companies, according to a new "MoneyTree Report" issued by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the National Venture Capital Association, based on data from Thomson Reuters. But the money wasn't spread around to buoy many more companies. A few just got huge piles of cash. Last year saw a record 47



In this Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014 photo, a woman leaves the headquarters of Uber in San Francisco. Associated Press

"mega-deals," defined as investments of more than \$100 million. That's nearly twice as many as reported in 2013, said Mark McCaffrey of PricewaterhouseCoopers, who leads the accounting and consulting firm's global software practice.

Uber Technologies, the ride-hailing service disrupting the transportation industry and generating plenty of press, received

the top two biggest rounds of investment last year. Each raised \$1.2 billion for Uber, and the company's value is now pegged at \$41 billion. Other major deals included \$542 million (mostly from Google Inc.) invested in Magic Leap Inc., a secretive startup working on virtual reality technology; \$500 million in Vice Media, which operates online news and video channels; and \$485 million

in SnapChat, the popular messaging service.

What's driving those deals? U.S. tech startups are proving they can reach vast global markets and reap sizable revenue, said McCaffrey. And there are more investors eager to get a piece of that return — private equity and hedge funds and corporate investment divisions are vying with traditional venture capitalists to back promising startups. But critics say some companies may never make enough money to justify the sky-high valuations.

The worries harken back to the go-go year of 2000, when the dot-com boom

drove venture funding to a peak of \$105 billion. But then a wave of new Internet companies crested and collapsed, many of them failing to ever make money. Venture funding bottomed at \$19.7 billion by 2003 and spent the last decade bobbing in a \$20 billion to \$30 billion range before making the big leap last year.

Several experts expect funding this year to continue at a similar rate. Commercial software companies, especially those that offer cybersecurity services and tools for analyzing large amounts of data, are expected to be big draws in 2015, along with biotech and health technology.

So are we approaching another bubble?

Most experts won't go that far, but are raising concerns about so-called "froth" in the market. Robert Ackerman, managing director and founder of Silicon Valley venture firm Allegis Capital, is convinced new software and communications startups are revolutionizing the world's economy. However, beyond the risk of investors losing money, Ackerman said some companies may see these cash windfalls as permission to burn through money at an excessive rate, rather than spending at a level justified by their own realistic earnings potential.

## Twitter accounts of New York Post and news agency UPI hacked

MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Some Twitter accounts of the New York Post and UPI, as well as the news agency's website, were briefly hacked Friday.

Tweets with false economic and military news were posted and then deleted. One tweet on United Press International's feed said that the Pope said World War III had begun. Another on the New York Post's business section Twitter feed said that Bank of America's CEO was calling for calm after a Federal Reserve decision.

The hack is being investigated, said Jenny Tartikoff, a spokeswoman for the Post. The New York news-

paper is owned by News Corp.

In a statement posted to its website, UPI, based in Washington, said its Twitter account and website were hacked. Six fake headlines were posted to its Twitter account, and a "breaking news" banner with a fake story about the Federal Reserve was posted to its homepage until UPI's technology support team shut down access.

It's the latest hack of a high-profile social media account.

The Twitter and YouTube accounts of the U.S. military's Central Command were compromised earlier this week by hackers claiming to support the Islamic State militant group, and

Crayola apologized for a hack of its Facebook page that filled it with sex jokes and other off-color content. During a 2013 hack, Burger King's Twitter feed posted obscenities and put up McDonald's logo as its profile picture.

More dangerous intrusions of companies and organizations are also on the rise. Just since fall 2013, hackers at Sony Pictures Entertainment, Target, Home Depot and JPMorgan Chase compromised those companies' computer networks and gained access to confidential information about customers or employees. The hacks have exposed the lack of uniform practices for dealing with breaches.

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# Goldman Sachs 4Q earnings fall 10 percent

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Goldman Sachs posted a 10 percent drop in fourth-quarter earnings Friday as trading activity declined.

The Wall Street investment bank's fixed income, currency and commodities division saw a 29 percent revenue slump during the quarter,

from \$1.72 billion to \$1.22 billion. Goldman follows other major U.S. banks this week in reporting a noticeable slowdown in trading over the past three months.

Goldman earned \$2.03 billion, or \$4.38 a share, for the quarter that ended in December. That compares with a profit of \$2.25 billion, or \$4.60 a share, in the same

period a year earlier.

Revenues were \$7.69 billion, down from \$8.78 billion a year ago.

Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected Goldman to earn \$4.32 a share on \$7.66 billion in revenue.

Goldman also saw a slowdown in its investment bank underwriting division.

For the full year, Goldman

reported a profit of \$8.08 billion, or \$17.07 a share, up from \$7.73 billion, or \$16.34 a share, last year.

Goldman's compensation expenses, typically the firm's largest operating expense, were flat for the year at \$12.69 billion.

Goldman shares fell \$1.72, or 1 percent, to \$176.77 in late morning trading Friday. □

# Wet Seal files for bankruptcy to stay afloat

**HIROKO TABUCHI**

**© 2015 New York Times**

The latest victim of changing teenage tastes and lifestyles, Wet Seal said Friday that it had filed for bankruptcy protection, although a financing offer from a boutique investment bank could help keep some of its business alive.

Young-apparel retailers have struggled to stay relevant as teenagers increasingly prefer to shop online and at cheap fast-fashion retailers like H&M and Forever 21, and spend time on their smartphones, rather than at malls.

Last week, Wet Seal closed 338 stores and laid off 3,700 employees, amid a precipitous fall in its comparable-store sales. Its Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing listed assets of \$10 million to \$50 million against liabilities of \$100 million to \$500 million.

"The continuing fundamental shift in consumer behavior away from traditional mall shopping toward online-only stores and increased competition throughout the specialty retail fashion industry have created a difficult operating environment," Wet Seal's chief financial officer, Thomas Hillebrandt, said in the company's bankruptcy filing.

Still, a bankruptcy financing deal with the boutique investment bank B. Riley could help save part of Wet Seal's business, the retailer said. Under the terms of the deal, B. Riley would lend Wet Seal as much as \$20 million to finance its operations during the Chapter 11 reorganization. The loan will convert to equity in the reorganized company if Wet Seal successfully pulls through.

"We are pleased to provide financial assistance to the Wet Seal in its efforts to revive this iconic fashion retailer," Bryant Riley, B. Riley's chairman, said in a statement.

In seeking protection from creditors, Wet Seal joins the teenage fashion retailers Deb Shops and Delia's, which both filed for bankruptcy last month. □

# Oil-company rally snaps 5-day losing streak

**MATTHEW CRAFT**

**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A surge in oil and gas companies pulled the stock market out of a five-day slump on Friday, as the price of crude swung higher.

Oil prices jumped after the International Energy Agency predicted drillers would cut production this year. Exxon Mobil, Chevron and other energy companies led all 10 sectors of the Standard & Poor's 500 index to gains, climbing 3 percent. Oil's seven-month slide had cut its price by more than half.

26.75 points, or 1.3 percent, to finish at 2,019.42.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 190.86 points, or 1.1 percent, to close at 17,511.57, and the Nasdaq rose 63.56 points, or 1.4 percent, to 4,634.38.

The rally came at the end of another rough week for the market. Since the start of the year, worries about the strength of the global economy and falling oil prices have weighed major indexes down. Even with its strong performance on Friday, the S&P 500 still lost 1 percent for the week, its third straight weekly drop.

lems, such as deflation, a downward spiral in prices that could put companies out of business. "Are low oil prices a good or a bad thing?" she asked, rhetorically. "For stocks, deflation is not so great."

Benchmark U.S. crude jumped \$2.44 on Friday to settle at \$48.69 a barrel in New York trading. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils used by many U.S. refineries, added 31 cents to \$50.17 in London.

The economic reports out Friday offered investors some encouragement. U.S.

its highest level in 11 years.

A fall in trading revenue pulled down Goldman Sachs's quarterly earnings 10 percent. The investment bank's fixed income, currency and commodities division slumped 29 percent. Goldman's stock dipped \$1.26, or 0.7 percent, to \$177.23.

It was a recurring theme for a week in which JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America and other big banks turned in results that missed analysts' forecasts. Overall, analysts predict that big corporations will post earnings growth of 4 percent, according to S&P Capital IQ. Sales are expected to rise just 2.1 percent, largely the result of falling revenue for oil companies.

Most major markets in Europe closed with solid gains. Germany's DAX and France's CAC 40 climbed 1.3 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.8 percent.

A move by the Swiss National Bank on Thursday rippled through currency markets, after the central bank ditched its policy to cap the rise of the Swiss franc. Following the news, the Swiss franc spiked against both the euro and the dollar. Switzerland's stock market sank again on Friday, losing 6 percent. The move in the Swiss franc rocked brokerages that deal in foreign currencies. FXCM, a New York-based brokerage, said late Thursday that its big losses may have put the company in breach of regulatory requirements. FXCM's stock plunged ahead of the opening bell before trading in its shares was suspended. □



**Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A surge in oil and gas companies pulled the stock market out of a five-day slump on Friday, as the price of crude swung higher. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)**

"Lower oil prices on the whole are supportive of economic growth worldwide," said Jason Pride, director of investment strategy at Glenmede Trust. "They're very helpful for Japan, Europe, China and India. It's clearly a good thing."

The S&P 500 index gained

"There has been a lot of conflicting information to digest, recently," said Anastasia Amoroso, a global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Amoroso said the big question has been whether the recent slump in oil prices will lead to other prob-

manufacturers churned out more furniture, computers and clothing in December, according to the Federal Reserve, as factory production increased for a fourth straight month in a row. In a separate report, a gauge of consumer sentiment from the University of Michigan jumped to



## Buck up, profits down: High dollar dents US company earnings

**PAUL WISEMAN  
STAN CHOE**  
**AP Business Writers**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The victims vary: Fast-food colossus McDonald's. Technology giant Oracle. Medical device maker Cooper Cos.

The culprit's the same: A surging U.S. dollar

A symbol of American economic might, the rising dollar is denting the earnings of U.S. companies that operate overseas. The damage started showing up in results for the July-September period, and the picture will likely get uglier as companies report earnings for the final three months of 2014.

"It's clearly a drag on corporate profits," says David Kelly, chief market strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds.

A few months ago, Kelly notes, analysts had expected a double-digit annual rise in corporate profits in the fourth quarter. Now, in part because the dollar is carving into earnings, they're forecasting just 4.6 percent overall earnings growth for companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index.

A prolonged drop in profits risks rattling investors and pressuring stocks.

Among major industries, technology companies and producers of energy and raw materials generally derive the highest percentage of revenue from

abroad, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices.

Since June 30, the dollar has jumped 16 percent against the Japanese yen.



**A man exchanges money at a currency exchange office on the Champs Elysees in Paris. Long a symbol of American economic might, the rising dollar is denting the earnings of U.S. companies that operate overseas.**  
(AP Photo/Christophe Ena)

Against the euro, it's up 18 percent. Against the Brazilian real, nearly 20 percent. Investors are buying dollars and driving it higher largely because the American economy is humming while other economies are sputtering. In Europe and Japan, growth has flatlined. In China, it's slowed. Investors are also seizing on higher interest rates in the United States: The super-safe 10-year U.S. Treasury note yields 1.74 percent — miserly by historical standards but richer than the

0.46 yield on 10-year German government bonds or the 1.59 percent on 10-year Spanish bonds.

A higher-valued dollar

hardly alone in suffering from currency swings. Swiss companies are hurting because their currency, the franc, is much stron-

ger than the euro. Their plight worsened on Thursday, when the Swiss central bank suddenly abandoned its effort to cap the value of the franc against the euro. The news sent the franc soaring against the euro. The Swiss National Bank abandoned the cap because it had proved too costly, requiring ever-larger purchases of euros.

FIReaPPS, a consulting firm that advises clients on managing currency fluctuations, says 202 North American companies

have said currency swings would reduce revenue from July through September — up 53 percent from the previous quarter. "It's started to bite," says Ralph Hardt, president of the Jagemann Stamping Co. in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where exports account for about one-fifth of revenue. "You risk having a (foreign) competitor getting between you and your customer."

The dollar's surge is "going to be a large source of disappointment," says Margie Patel, who manages \$1.4 billion in stocks and bonds at Wells Fargo Asset Management. She says the stronger dollar could reduce companies' fourth-quarter earnings 5 percent or more, depending on how much business they do abroad.

Consider McDonald's, which has locations in more than 100 countries. Revenue fell 6 percent in November from a year earlier at its company-owned and franchise restaurants, and the drop was due largely to the rising dollar.

If currency values had remained flat, revenue would have inched up 0.1 percent. McDonald's warned last month that the higher dollar could shave up to 9 cents off its fourth-quarter earnings per share, which analysts expect to be \$1.23. □

## Japan's Uniqlo to step up controls on China suppliers

**ELAINE KURTENBACH**  
**AP Business Writer**

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japanese fashion giant Fast Retailing Co. is tightening controls on treatment of workers at key suppliers' factories in China following complaints by labor rights groups that highlight the pressures prevailing in the highly competitive low-cost garment industry.

Members of two labor rights groups said Friday they are planning meetings next week with representatives of the company, which makes popular Uniqlo brand clothing.

"We believe that Uniqlo

has a lot of suppliers in China. These two factories are just the starting point of our campaign," said Alexandra Chan, a project officer of the Hong Kong-based labor monitoring group Students & Scholars Against Corporate Misbehavior, or SACOM.

Fast Retailing issued a statement Thursday saying it would take action to ensure fair payment and accounting of working hours, curb excess overtime and improve conditions on factory floors of its suppliers in response to the complaints based on undercover investigations by SACOM.

SACOM said it found that workers at two suppliers in southern China were working between 112 hours and 134 hours of overtime a month, on top of 11-12 hours a day with only a few days off a month, and were being underpaid, based on Chinese labor laws. Workers were not wearing required protective gear and factory temperatures exceeded 38 Celsius (100 Fahrenheit) at times, the report said. It cited various hazardous conditions, including chemical-laden wastewater on the factory floors.

In a statement, Fast Re-

tailing said its own investigation had corroborated some of those complaints. "Respecting human rights and ensuring appropriate working conditions for the workers of our production partners are top priorities for Fast Retailing, and in this we are completely aligned with SACOM," Yukihiro Niita, the company's executive officer responsible for corporate social responsibility, said in the statement. It said Fast Retailing would step up monitoring at the factories, including those that supply textiles to its direct suppliers.

Chan welcomed the re-

sponse.

"We will keep closely monitoring the suppliers of Uniqlo in China and of course we will see the progress of these two factories that we investigated this time," she said. Overall, conditions at Chinese factories have been improving as global brands move to protect their corporate reputations, Chan said. "Uniqlo is an international brand, not just a Japanese brand," she said. "I don't think Uniqlo can tolerate defects in its clothing. I think Uniqlo should have high standards for its factory conditions as well." □



## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

				8			
		9	4		6	7	
	4						3
	1			9			6
8			6	5	4		1
	2			1			7
	5						9
		7	1		3	5	
				6			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/17

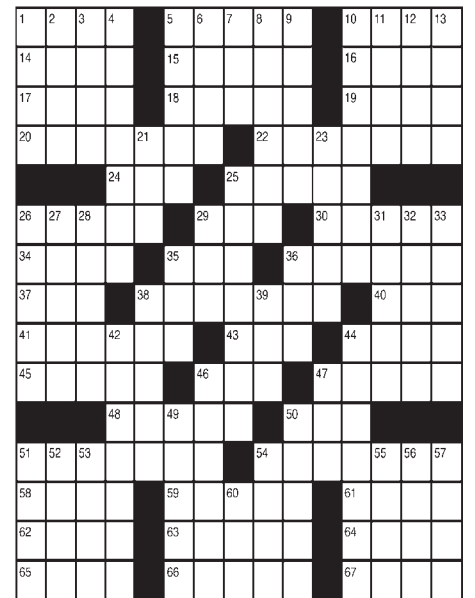
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	1	9	2	7	5	8	3	6
7	6	2	8	3	9	1	4	5
8	5	3	6	1	4	7	9	2
6	9	1	4	8	3	5	2	7
5	7	8	9	6	2	4	1	3
3	2	4	7	5	1	6	8	9
2	4	5	1	9	7	3	6	8
9	8	7	3	4	6	2	5	1
1	3	6	5	2	8	9	7	4

### ACROSS

- Body of water
- Enjoys a leisurely bath
- Actor Garrett
- Work animals
- Dutch flower
- away; galloped off
- Suspenders alternative
- Amphitheater
- out; leak
- Fish-eating hawks
- Unrealistic one
- Ernie of golf
- Mixer speed
- Evening coffee, perhaps
- "A Boy Named"; Johnny Cash song
- Speed; fast driver
- Way out
- Card game
- Go back on a promise
- Summer month; abbr.
- Very dry
- "A fool and his money soon parted"
- Peruvian pack animals
- at; attacked
- Escaped
- Strip of leather
- Become firm
- Impudent
- Rescues
- Taxi
- oneself; confide feelings
- Cure for fatigue
- 12 p.m.
- Vaster
- Unpleasant
- "Use lose it"
- legislation; make laws
- Poker token
- Extremely
- Chain parts
- Average



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/17/15

### Friday's Puzzle Solved

#### DOWN

- Gray wolf
- Chopping tools
- Seaweed
- Implore
- Remains
- Yours & mine
- Schooner drink
- E-book reader
- Tire in a trunk
- Expand
- Motel's offering
- Shaping tool
- Doe or buck
- Tiny fellow
- Stopped
- together; puts in groups
- Passes out cards
- Rejoice
- Stogie
- Man's title
- Repasts
- Villains
- Poor
- Car fuel
- As as a beet
- Daddies

BUSH	APPLE	ECHO
ONCE	TRAIL	DRAW
ADAM	HAND	MEDOWN
ROT	CENT	NICKS
THANK	USE	
SPEARS	TRUSTS	
HARMS	VERGE	RIP
ITIS	JAMIE	HALO
PIN	PUTUP	HAIKU
OGRESS	MARTYR	
OAT	DITTO	
ABDUL	MINE	RHO
REASSURING	SOUP	
CAFE	FATAL	PUNT
HUTS	ON THE	ASKS

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1/17/15

- Actor Holbrook
- Stonework
- Materials
- Zodiac sign
- Downcast
- A, E, I, O or U
- Breath freshener
- Yale or Harvard; abbr.
- Short letter
- Obnoxious one
- At someone's and call
- Canyon sound
- Zooms downhill
- Office boo-boo
- Actor Aykroyd



## Growers struggle with glut of legal pot in Washington state

GENE JOHNSON  
Associated Press

**SEATTLE (AP)** — The legal marijuana market in the northwestern state of Washington opened last summer to a dearth of weed. Some stores periodically closed because they didn't have pot to sell. Prices were through the roof. Six months later, the equation has flipped, bringing serious growing pains to the new industry. A big harvest of sun-grown marijuana from eastern Washington last fall flooded the market. Prices are starting to come down in the state's licensed pot shops, but because of the glut, growers are struggling to sell their marijuana. Some are already worried about going belly-up, finding it tougher than expected to make a living in legal weed. "It's an economic nightmare," says Andrew Seitz, general manager at Dutch Brothers Farms in Seattle. Colorado, the only other state with legal marijuana sales, has a differently structured industry. Regulators have kept a lid on production, though those limits were loosened last fall as part of a planned expansion of the market. Colorado growers still have to prove legal demand for their product, a regulatory curb aimed at preventing excess weed from spilling to other states. The result has been more demand than supply.

In Washington, data show that licensed growers had harvested 31,000 pounds of bud as of Thursday, but the state's relatively few legal pot shops have sold less than one-fifth of that. Many of the state's marijuana users have stuck with the untaxed or much-lesser-taxed pot they get from black market dealers or unregulated medical dispensaries — limiting how quickly product moves off the shelves of legal stores. "Every grower I know has got surplus inventory and they're concerned about it," said Scott Masengill, who has sold half of the 280 pounds he harvested from his pot farm in central Washington. "I don't know anybody getting rich." Officials at the state Liquor Control Board, which regulates marijuana, aren't terribly concerned. So far, there are about 270 licensed growers in Washington — but only about 85 open stores for them to sell to. That's partly due to a slow, difficult licensing process; retail applicants who haven't been ready to open; and pot business bans in many cities and counties. The board's legal pot project manager, Randy Simmons, says he hopes about 100 more stores will open in the next few months, providing additional outlets for the weed that's been harvested. □

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#### GOLD Season

Oceanside \$9900  
Oceanview \$9k  
Oceanfront \$14,500k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17k

### Marriott Aruba Ocean club

GOLD Season  
2B Ocean view \$9k  
2B Oceanfront \$14500  
1B Oceanfront \$8500

#### PLATINUM Season

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Week	room	price
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2	571	\$8500
3 or 4	120	\$7,000
10	137	\$9,000
14	348	\$11,500
8	561	\$9,000
13	501	\$9,000
14	540	\$5,000
14	349	\$11,000
10	521	\$8,500
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Oranjestad

Jan. 17 Dr. Alvarez  
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SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
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FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
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HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	584-5050

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TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

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## Missing lander Beagle-2 finally located on Mars, agency says

GREGORY KATZ  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — It turns out the Beagle has landed after all — but it never called home.

The gone-but-not-forgotten spacecraft Beagle-2 went AWOL on Christmas Day, 2003, when it was supposed to land on Mars and start transmitting data back to Earth.

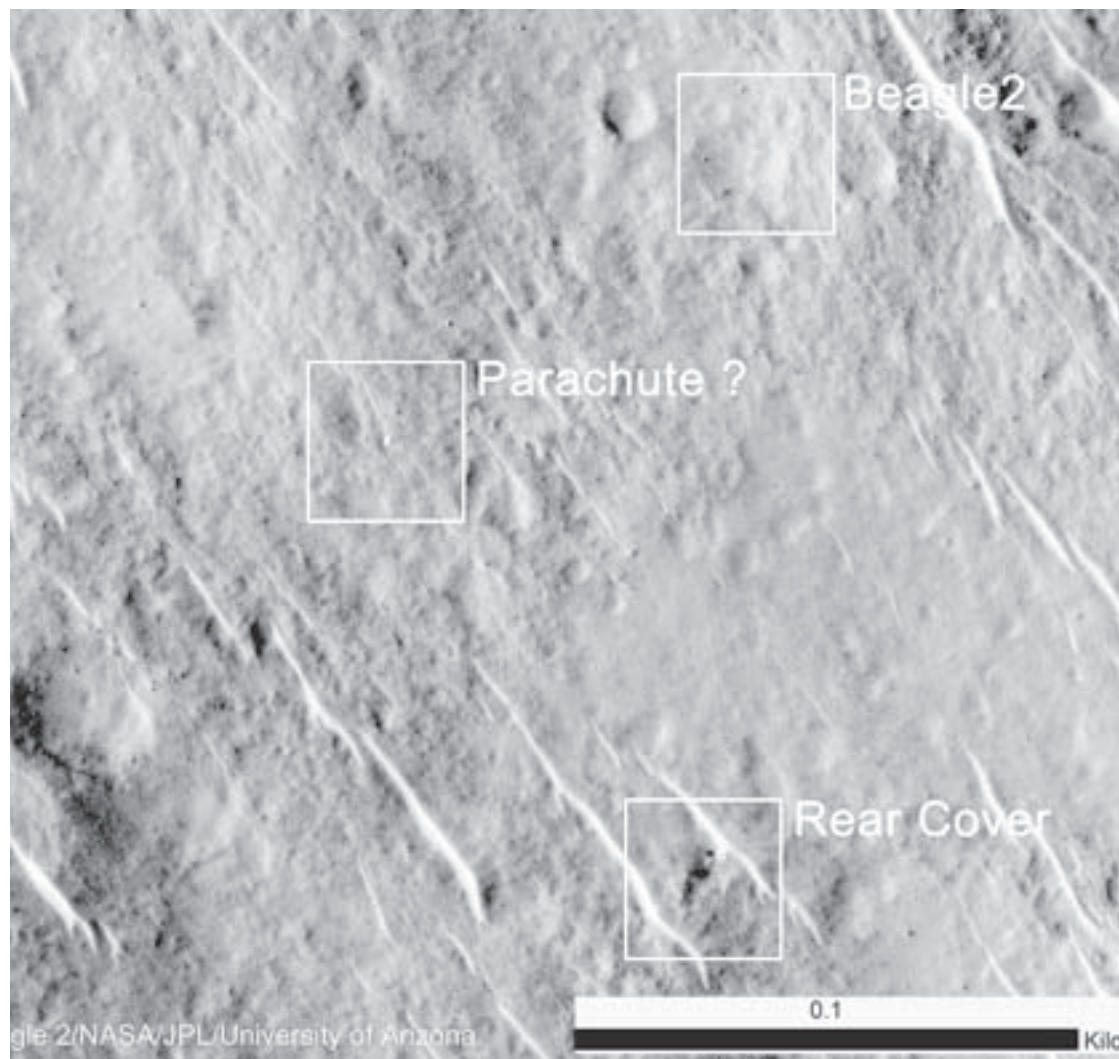
Instead, the British-built craft went dark. After several months, it was declared lost — presumed to have been destroyed during its approach or while trying to land on the red planet.

On Friday, more than 11 years later, European Space Agency officials reported that the Beagle-2 had been finally found — thanks to extensive detective work based on new photos taken by the high-resolution camera on NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.

The photos show the craft landed safely on Mars and partially deployed — but was unable to fully deploy and start communicating. Still, it was a vindication of sorts for space scientists who had wondered for more than a decade about the fate of their pet project, which was designed to search for signs of life on Mars.

Rudolf Schmidt, ESA's Mars Express project manager at the time, called the finding "excellent news." He said not knowing what happened to Beagle-2 had "remained a nagging worry."

Soon after Beagle-2's disappearance, NASA landed both Spirit and Opportunity near the Martian equator. Both sent back troves of images and discoveries, providing the sort of information astronomers



This image provided by the University of Leicester, NASA/JPL and the University of Arizona via the European Space Agency shows a photograph from NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter with annotations marking components of the Beagle-2 spacecraft on the surface of Mars.

Associated Press

had been seeking when the first Mars probes began. Mars is notoriously hard to reach. In a half-century of launch attempts, more than half of the missions by various countries have failed to get off the ground on Earth or overshot Mars. Landing on the red planet is particularly treacherous because of the thin atmosphere. Incoming spacecraft traveling at 12,000 mph (19,300 kph) have only minutes to slow to a stop. The Martian terrain is also full of obstacles — boulders, cracks and cliffs — and a wrong move can doom a spacecraft.

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, which has circled the planet since 2006, has periodically searched for

spacecraft missing in action. Still missing is NASA's Mars Polar Lander, which lost contact during its arrival at the south pole in 1999. Officials said careful analysis of the high-resolution photos showed the Beagle-2 had landed within its expected landing area in a basin close to the Martian equator. Signs of key entry and descent components were also spotted.

Identifying the craft was made more difficult by its small size — it is just over 6 feet (1.8 meters) wide with its solar panels unfurled. The 143-pound Beagle-2 was named for the ship that carried naturalist Charles Darwin on his voyage of discovery in the 1830s. It is shaped like an oversized

pocket watch and was designed to descend through the Martian atmosphere, deploy parachutes, and "bounce" to a safe landing on inflatable bags.

Experts who helped identify the lander at the University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary Lab said the photographs are "consistent" with only a partial deployment of the Beagle-2 upon landing. They said a failure to fully deploy would explain why no data or signals from the craft were ever received, since a complete deployment of all of its solar panels would have been needed for successful transmissions.

Alfred McEwen, chief investigator of the project, said the special camera had

been used to search for all of the landers that have tried to descend to the surface of Mars.

"This the first time we found one that didn't send a signal after it landed," he said. "If the landing sequence works correctly, the probe sends a radio signal, and you can use that to pinpoint where it is coming from, even if it broadcasts only very briefly. But in the case of Beagle-2, we didn't get anything. All we had to go by was the target landing area."

Experts who worked on the project said the Beagle-2 mission can now be classified a partial success — even if it never provided information about possible life on Mars.

UK Space Agency chief executive David Parker said the discovery of the craft showed its complex landing procedures had worked.

"This finding makes the case that Beagle-2 was more of a success than we previously knew and undoubtedly an important step in Europe's continuing exploration of Mars," he said. The Beagle-2 was launched on ESA's Mars Express orbiter. It was released from its mother ship on Dec. 19, 2003, for a landing six days later.

Professor Mark Sims of the University of Leicester, who worked on the project, said the new information shows the team came extremely close to its goal of getting data from Mars, with the deployment failing only in its final stage.

"To be frank, I had all but given up hope of ever knowing what happened to Beagle-2," he said, admitting he was troubled every Christmas Day by the unknown fate of the craft. □



## Gillian Anderson talks swimming and sleuthing on 'The Fall'



This image released by Netflix shows Gillian Anderson in the Netflix series "The Fall." Anderson stars as a detective named Stella Gibson who hunts a serial killer, played by Jamie Dornan. Associated Press

LEANNE ITALIE  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — There's agent Dana Scully of "The X-Files" and Blanche DuBois in "A Streetcar Named Desire." Also Lily Bart in "The House of Mirth," with a little Bedelia du Maurier, aka, Hannibal Lecter's shrink, thrown in.

Of all the period costumes and unraveling of twisted psyches that Gillian Anderson has taken on, she likes her Stella Gibson the most. Gibson being the enigmatic detective superintendent sent from London to Northern Ireland on the critically acclaimed serial-killer series "The Fall," aka the thing Jamie Dornan finds himself in the middle of as "Fifty Shades of Grey" madness takes tighter hold. Anderson had little to say about Dornan in a recent interview, begging off because the two didn't physically work with each other on "The Fall" during the first season. They do a little the second time around as Dornan's woman-killer, ex-family man Paul Spector, goes on the run.

Netflix drops the second season of the taut, Belfast-set drama Friday.

"Jamie Dornan wasn't Mr. Fifty Shades of Grey" when the slow-paced, cat-and-mouse show began on Irish television and the BBC,

Anderson said. "Jamie Dornan was cast after having done very little, and we cast him before 'Fifty Shades of Grey,' so that's what our starting point was. This was a fresh face of somebody who was clearly a very good actor." The 46-year-old Anderson, who has won awards for both stage and screen work, owes her early success to Scully, but considers Gibson the most interesting on her resume, with little-to-no backstory provided for the character during the first, five-episode season.

"The script for 'The Fall' was very different than anything I've read before, and I felt that Stella was about as complex a character as I ever encountered," she said. "That appeals to me. Even after the second season, after we do get hints here and there, maybe bits of her past, you're still asking the question who is she and what makes her tick?" One thing that keeps Gibson going is lap swimming. Anderson hit the pool herself the first season but required a body double for the second.

"I don't generally enjoy it," Anderson said of Gibson's pool obsession. "But the day that we shot all those scenes I thought this is OK, I like this. I could maybe do

this on a regular basis, and then between that point and the time that we shot the second season I developed what's called a frozen shoulder."

As for how television's female crime fighters have changed over the years since the "X-Files" debuted, Anderson doesn't really know.

"I don't watch TV myself," she said. "I seriously don't know how people find the time. ... I have a lot on my plate and when I'm (on) airplanes, I'm writing. I'm more likely to choose a film if I do make that time for myself."

In addition to three kids, Anderson has given birth

to "A Vision of Fire," the first of a science fiction book trilogy co-written with Jeff Rovin. And she's been working "for about 100 years" on a screen adaptation of Elizabeth Rosner's debut novel, "The Speed of Light," about a brother and sister dealing with their father's secret past.

And she's now one of the executive producers on "The Fall," which saw the exit of director Jakob Verbruggen. Season two duties fell to creator Allan Cubitt. Anderson said she can "pretty much" promise a third season. With Dornan? "We don't know that he's gonna follow us into a third season," she said. □

## ABC Family's 'Chasing Life' focuses on young adult cancer

ALICIA RANCILIO  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Italia Ricci plays a twenty-something journalist who is battling leukemia on ABC Family's "Chasing Life." It's not an easy role, the actress says.

"I just feel really guilty when I get to come home and not have cancer and all of the people who have cancer can't turn it off," she said in a recent interview. "It just doesn't feel fair and so that hits me harder than what I have to work out on (the) set." "Chasing Life" returns with the second half of its first season on Monday (9 p.m. EST). The 28-year-old says playing April Carver has given her perspective and reminded her of the saying, "pick your battles."

"I get to look at life as if the stakes are that high for me," she said. "It does take all the trivial things that I would at one point get worked up about and be like, 'So not worth my energy.'"

"Chasing Life" is adapted from the Mexican series "Terminales." Ricci said she hasn't watched the show because she doesn't want it to influence her performance.

She also didn't want to take on too much information at the beginning of filming because her character doesn't know anything about cancer when she is diagnosed.

As April learned, so did Ricci. She spoke with doctors, nurses, caregivers and loved ones of cancer patients.

Ricci said of her character: "I think she's accepted that she can't be in control of everything all the time. That's been her biggest development."

She also talked to an aunt of her fiancé. "She has survived breast cancer multiple times," Ricci said.

"I sat down with her and she just liked



In this Dec. 8, 2014 file photo, actress Italia Ricci poses for a portrait in New York. Ricci stars in ABC Family's "Chasing Life," airing Mondays. Associated Press

changed everything and gave me the most amazing advice and description, and it was really helpful."

Matthew Zachary, founder of Stupid Cancer, an organization that helps provide awareness, information, support and research about young adult cancer, says the response to "Chasing Life" from the cancer community has been "overwhelmingly positive."

He said ABC Family, the show and Ricci have taken the depiction of cancer very seriously and the character of April Carver has become a catalyst for social awareness. □



## Julianne Moore goes inside Alzheimer's in 'Still Alice'

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Julianne Moore didn't know much about Alzheimer's before taking on the role of Dr. Alice Howard.

Adapted from Lisa Genova's bestselling book, the tender and occasionally harrowing drama "Still Alice" tells the story of an accomplished Columbia University linguistics professor who discovers that she has early onset Alzheimer's.

"I was really starting at zero," said Moore in a recent interview at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles.

"What was so compelling about the script was that it was the first time I had seen a disease like this depicted objectively. It's usually from the point of view of the caregiver or a family member who's watching someone transform in this way. This brings you inside this character and her journey through it," she said.

The actress, who on Thursday received an Oscar nomination for her much



This photo provided by courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics shows Julianne Moore as Alice, in a scene from the film, "Still Alice." Associated Press

acclaimed performance in the film, told co-directors and writers Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland at the start that she didn't want to represent anything on screen that she hadn't actually seen.

Whether it's using a highlighter so as not to lose your place in the middle of a speech or self-administering a daily memory test on your iPhone, everything that

Alice does in the movie is based on reality.

"I felt like that was the only fair way to do it," said Moore. She took great lengths to immerse herself into the world of Alzheimer's through books and documentaries that she and Glatzer and Westmoreland would pass around to one another, but also by talking to clinicians, neurologists and, most importantly, ac-

tual patients.

Moore started at the national level, conducting Skype calls with patients who she was put in touch with through the Alzheimer's Association. She had a doctor administer an extensive cognitive test on her at New York's Mount Sinai Hospital. She consulted with Gerontologists.

During her sojourns to long-term care facilities and sup-

port groups, Moore found herself struck by the generosity of everyone she spoke to in the process and observed that people's personalities were very evident, no matter how advanced their disease.

"There was a guy who was really gregarious and would talk to everybody and welcome people as you walked through. He had owned a bar. And another woman was a model who had worked in fashion, she showed me her book. Another woman had been a designer. It was just interesting," said Moore, who also made sure to talk to visiting family members.

On set, Moore also saw an immediate example of the effects of a disease on a marriage. Glatzer, who is married to Westmoreland, is living with ALS. By the time production started on the movie, he'd lost his speech and the use of his arms.

In an interview, Glatzer communicated by typing on an iPad with a toe on his right foot. □



In this Jan. 9, 2009 file photo, Beth Malarkey, left, covers up her son, Alex, right, with a blanket after surgery as Alex's father, Kevin, watches at University Hospital's Case Western Reserve Medical Center in Cleveland. Associated Press

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A best-selling account of a 6-year-old boy's journey to heaven and back has been pulled after the boy retracted his story.

Spokesman Todd Starowitz of Tyndale House, a leading Christian publisher, confirmed Friday that Alex Malarkey's "The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven:

A Remarkable Account of Miracles, Angels, and Life Beyond This World" was being withdrawn. Earlier this week, Malarkey acknowledged in an open letter that he was lying, saying that he had been seeking attention. He also regretted that "people had profited from lies."

"I did not die. I did not go to Heaven," he wrote. "When I made the claims

## Best-seller about journey to heaven is pulled

that I did, I had never read the Bible. People have profited from lies, and continue to. They should read the Bible, which is enough."

"The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" was first published in 2010 and told of a 2004 auto accident which left Malarkey in a coma. According to the book, co-written by Alex's father, Kevin Malarkey, he had visions of angels and of meeting Jesus. In 2014, Tyndale reissued "The Boy," which on the cover includes the billing "A True Story." As reported by Nielsen BookScan, which tracks around 85 percent of the print market, the book has sold nearly 120,000 copies.

The facts of "The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" have long been disputed in the Christian community, which has challenged

reports of divine visions in Malarkey's book and other best-sellers such as Todd Burpo's "Heaven is for Real." Last June, the Southern Baptist Convention passed a resolution declaring "the sufficiency of biblical revelation over subjective experiential explanations to guide one's understanding of the truth about heaven and hell." One of the leading critics has been Malarkey's mother, Beth. In April 2014, she wrote a blog posting saying that the book's success had been "both puzzling and painful to watch" and that she believed Alex had been exploited.

"I could talk about how much it has hurt my son tremendously and even make financial statements public that would prove that he has not received moneys from the book nor have a majority of his

needs been funded by it," she wrote.

"What I have walked through with Alex over the past nine years has nearly broken me personally and spiritually. I have wept so deeply for what I have watched my children go through, been made aware of how ignorant I was of some things, how selfish I was, and how Biblically illiterate I was which allowed me to be deceived!"

Tyndale, based in Carol Stream, Illinois, was founded in 1962. It's notable publications include the multimillion-selling "Left Behind" series of the 1990s and 2000s by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins and The Living Bible, a paraphrased edition by Tyndale founder Kenneth N. Taylor that has sold tens of millions of copies over the past 50 years. □



## Mitt and the Melee



FRANK BRUNI  
© 2015 New York Times

There's an adage in my business that it's not news when a dog bites a man, only when a man bites a dog.

By that reasoning, the political story of the year so far is Paul Ryan's announcement that he will not run for president.

Seemingly everyone else in his party will. Rick Santorum's back. George Pataki's back. Mike Huckabee's back, with an alliterative new book ("God, Guns, Grits and Gravy") that sounds like an agenda hijacked by a Denny's menu, or maybe a sequel to "Fried Green Tomatoes" starring Mel Gibson and a howitzer.

Even Rick Perry's back. I'd tick off three reasons that he's crazy to try again except that I can remember only two. He's a whole new candidate, at least on the accessories front. It's been said that Americans give you 10 additional IQ points if you have a British accent; he's betting on an extra five for eyeglasses.

And now - the heart quickens and the flesh quivers - Mitt Romney's back. That's the word this week: that he's inching ever closer to another presidential bid, which we know because he's articulated as much to donors.

Doesn't it pretty much say everything about our political process right now that candidates flag their intentions first to the people they'll be hitting up for money? And that the way they attempt to clear the field isn't with a surge in polls but with a fortune in the bank? I bet some of them form PACs before they bother to tell their spouses what's up. It's called priorities.

By one count that I just came across, there are 25 Republicans of some standing who have signaled at least a flickering interest in the 2016 race. This certainly explains the dip in unemployment. Thousands of Republican presidential strategists and advisers have been added to payrolls.

It also explains the difference between the parties. Democrats want to expand government. Republicans want to expand auditions for it.

A Romney candidacy would be curious in the extreme. In 2000, Al Gore beat George W. Bush in the popular vote and lost the presidency by dint of a Supreme Court ruling; he nonetheless let someone else carry the Demo-

cratic banner in 2004.

That person was John Kerry, who came closer to winning than Romney did, and yet he, too, didn't circle back four years later for more punishment.

From what I hear, Romney began mulling a third bid for the presidency months ago, when the Republican establishment remained skeptical of Chris Christie and when it wasn't at all certain that Jeb Bush would join the race. Romney was poised to rush in like a cinematically coifed superhero and save the party from the deliriums of Rand Paul and the diatribes of Ted Cruz.

By the time Bush began all the maneuvering of the last four weeks, Romney had developed the itch. He also apparently believes that Bush's support for Common Core educational standards and immigration reform will cripple him in the primaries.

If Bush formalizes a candidacy and Romney follows suit, he'd run to Bush's right. But Bush is the one with the truly conservative record as a governor, in Florida, while Romney is the one with a moderate record from Massachusetts. He'd be flipping the script, and if his political orientation was confusing last time around, it would be only more so this time.

He's reportedly concerned that Bush's financial dealings will make him acutely vulnerable to attacks. So the solution is ... Romney?

His campaign would be predicated on buyer's remorse: Voters could have had him and now get a do-over. But the buyers may be growing less remorseful. Romney had promised them that by the end of his first term, unemployment would be at or under 6 percent. It's there already, in half the time.

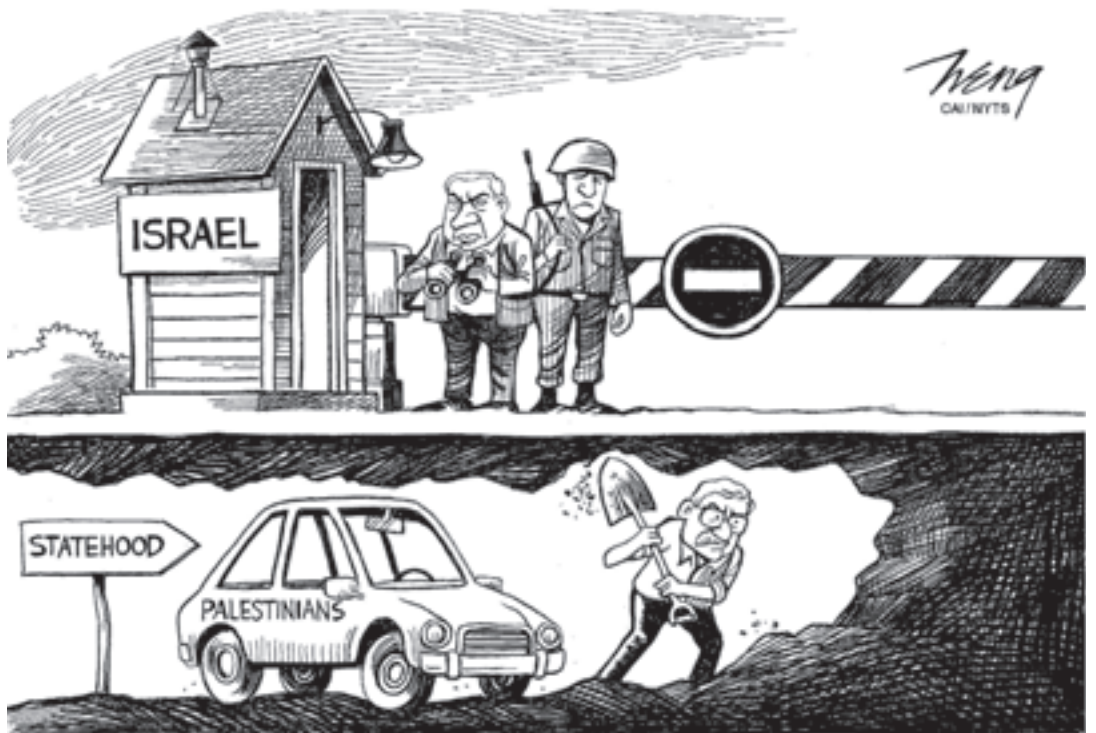
Romney, Perry and others forget that when they're not candidates, they're well loved. When they are, they're well trashed. Today's fascination is tomorrow's flop on "Meet the Press," a hapless porterhouse for the panel to carve up.

Some Republicans (and Democrats) are simply chasing higher speaking fees, maybe a book like Huckabee's, hold the gravy. But there's a cost to us. An overcrowded field of candidates doesn't mean a more spirited exchange of ideas; it means so many voices that none get properly heard (or vetted).

Remember those early Republican debates during the last cycle, when so many contenders fanned out across the stage that they looked like misbegotten Rockettes? We could have twice that number in 2016. We could have a crowd scene in "Cats."

So I'd say to Romney what he said to The New York Times' Ashley Parker when she asked him early last year about one more campaign:

"Oh, no, no, no. No, no, no, no. No. No, no, no." □



## An Islamic Reformer, Lashed



NICHOLAS KRISTOF  
© 2015 New York Times

As one group of Islamic militants was waging war in Paris, another was slaughtering vast numbers of civilians in Baga in northern Nigeria - as many as 2,000, according to Amnesty International; "only" 150, according to the Nigerian government.

Meanwhile, al-Qaida has blown up scores of people in Yemen, and the Pakistan Taliban murdered 150 people at a school. Libyan extremists blew up a Foreign Ministry building last month because an official wished people "Merry Christmas."

These spasms of terrorism cry out for a conversation among Muslims about faith and tolerance. Islamic reformers could point out that the Quran prescribes no punishment at all for blasphemers other than telling others to keep their distance from them. The holy book that decrees death for blasphemy is the Bible (Leviticus 24:16).

Fortunately, a Saudi liberal, Raif Badawi, has kick-started a public discussion about Islam and modernity on his blog. Good for Saudi Arabia for promoting this kind of debate!

Well, no. Actually, our Saudi allies sentenced Badawi to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashes for "insulting Islam." The first 50 lashes were delivered in a public flogging on Friday, and Badawi is scheduled to receive 50 more every Friday

until he reaches 1,000.

"Raif raised his head toward the sky, closing his eyes and arching his back," Amnesty International quoted a witness as saying.

There is a difference between murdering cartoonists and flogging bloggers. But still!

Saudi Arabia could play a leadership role in Islam. In the mid-20th century, King Abdul Aziz al-Saud overcame traditionalists who opposed cars, radio and the telegraph as non-Islamic by having the Quran read aloud on the radio.

Yet since then Saudi elites have retreated, sipping whiskey at private parties while deferring publicly to the traditionalists. Saudi Arabia does not allow Christian churches and sometimes has confiscated Bibles. (I once smuggled in a Bible to see what would happen if I were caught; Saudi customs officials searched the wrong bag.) The kingdom oppresses Shiites, funds extremist Wahhabi madrassas across the Islamic world and last month referred two women to its anti-terrorism courts - for driving cars. To be blunt, Saudi Arabia legitimizes Islamic fundamentalism and intolerance.

Pakistani officials play a similar game. Pakistan was once a tolerant country whose first foreign minister was a member of the Ahmadi sect. Now Ahmadis are persecuted, and a Christian woman, Asia Bibi, is on death row in a preposterous blasphemy case after drinking water said to be for Muslims only.

(Bravo to Dawn, a Pakistani newspaper, for daring to publish online an article this week by Arafat Mazhar using Islamic legal reasoning to protest the sentence against Asia Bibi. That's exactly what we need more of.) One risk is that the West will respond to Islamic terror with Islamophobia and intolerance that aggravates religious tensions - just what the terrorists hope to provoke. The French nationalist Marine Le Pen has gained ground, and we've seen suggestions from Rupert Murdoch and

others that all 1.6 billion Muslims are somehow to blame for Islamic terrorism. After I wrote last week that the world should resist that impulse to smear all Muslims, I was denounced by Bill O'Reilly and Sean Hannity on Fox News and called an "ink-stained coward" by The Weekly Standard.

Hmm. When Bill O'Reilly apologizes for IRA bombings and the genocide by Christian Serbs, then Muslims will no doubt apologize for Paris.

Maybe if these "journalists" left their bubble and actually talked to more Muslims, they wouldn't spew nonsense - such as that Pakistan is an Arab country or that Birmingham, England, is entirely Muslim and a no-go area for Christians. That paranoid claim by a Fox News "expert," later retracted, led wags to suggest that the city had renamed itself Birming, since Muslims avoid ham.

Let's resist simplistic narratives on our side, for they've already done enough damage in the Islamic world, and in truth Islam is as complex and diverse as, say, "journalism." Muslims include the terrorist who murdered Jews in Paris and the Malian worker there who risked his life to save seven Jews.

In the past our overreaction to Islamism has sometimes been counterproductive: The Bush administration was so fearful of the Islamic Courts Union government in Somalia that it was complicit in an Ethiopian invasion in 2006 that led to the rise of the terrorist al-Shabab militia there. We were all left less secure.

Republicans have been hounding President Barack Obama for not sending a top official to Paris. They're right. But let's engage in more than symbolism and actually support the moderates in the Islamic world who are pushing for change - and, sometimes, being flogged for it. By our "allies."

Contact Kristof at Facebook.com/Kristof, Twitter.com/Nick-Kristof or by mail at The New York Times, 620 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10018. □



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